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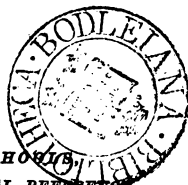




AN IMPROVED MANUAL
OF
UNIVERSAL HISTORY,

FROM THE CREATION OF THE WORLD TO THE
END OF THE 18TH CENTURY.

BY
A. TAINSH.



DESIGNED FOR USE IN SCHOOLS,
PRIVATE INSTRUCTION, AND GENERAL REFERENCE.

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M A N U A L
OF
UNIVERSAL HISTORY,
FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

PRELIMINARY REMARKS.

1. **UNIVERSAL HISTORY** is the narrative of facts and events worthy of note, from the Creation of the World to the present time.

2. **CHRONOLOGY** is the science of dates : it assigns to events a place in time.

3. **TIME** is the succession of moments.

4. An **EPOCH** is a time marked by a great event.

5. **CIVILIZATION** is the moral, intellectual, and social development of mankind. The elements of civilization are (1) **Religion**: relation between God and man ; (2) **Science**: the knowledge of cause and effect ; (3) **Art**: manifestation of the beautiful ; (4) **Commerce**: the exchange of the different productions of the world ; (5) **State**: force, or power, established to guarantee or defend society.

7. **UNIVERSAL HISTORY** is divided firstly into two great portions, viz.—before Christ, and after Christ ; and secondly, into three lesser, viz.—**Ancient** (from 4004 B.C. to 476 A.D.), **Medieval** (from 476 to 1453 A.D.), and **Modern** (from 1453 A.D. to the present time).

ANCIENT HISTORY.

FROM 4,004 B.C. TO 476 A.D.

Nine great events mark the first division :—

1st. The Creation—B.C. 4,004.

God created the Heavens and the Earth, and made man in His own image. He gave to Adam a companion, named Eve, mother of mankind.

2nd. The Fall of Man.

Adam and Eve disobeyed God in eating of the forbidden fruit. They were driven from Terrestrial Paradise, and condemned to the troubles of life.

3rd. The Promise of a Redeemer.

"I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed (Jesus Christ): it shall bruise thy head, (Christ shall bruise the serpent's head—i.e., destroy the dominion of the Devil), and thou shalt bruise his heel."

4th. Cain killed his brother Abel.

Through jealousy at the acceptance of his brother's sacrifice, Cain murdered him.

5th. The ten Antediluvian Patriarchs.

1. Adam.....	4,004—3,074 :	lived 930 years.
2. Seth.....	3,874—2,962 :	" 912 "
3. Enos.....	3,769—2,864 :	" 905 "
4. Cainan.....	3,679—2,769 :	" 910 "
5. Malaleel.....	3,609—2,714 :	" 895 "
6. Jared.....	3,544—2,582 :	" 962 "
7. Enoch.....	3,382—3,017 :	" 365 "
8. Methuselah .	3,317—2,348 :	" 969 "
9. Lamech.....	3,130—2,353 :	" 777 "
10. Noah.....	2,948—1,998 .	" 950 "

6th. The corruption of mankind and the universal Deluge.

7th. Noah's Prophecies concerning his sons :— Of Canaan he said, "Cursed be Canaan ; a servant of servants shall he be to his brethren." Of Shem, "Blessed be the Lord God of Shem, and

Canaan shall be his servant." Of Japheth, "God shall enlarge Japheth, and he shall dwell in the tents of Shem: and Canaan shall be his servant."

8th. The building of the Tower of Babel. The dispersion of mankind from Mount Ararat.

The family of *Shem* went to the South and East, that is, to the district east of the head of the Mediterranean Sea, Syria, Mesopotamia, Assyria, Persia, and India; the family of *Ham* to the South,—that is, the district west of the Persian Gulf, and the Southern half of Eastern shore of the Mediterranean Sea,—and ultimately to Africa, and founded Egypt;—the family of *Japheth* to the North.

9th. The Construction of Towns.

Formation of nations.

Foundation of empires.

Nimrod built Babylon.

Ashur founded Nineveh.

REPEOPLING OF THE WORLD BY NOAH'S DESCENDANTS.

Japheth: Europe, North of Asia, Asia Minor, and America.

Shem: Central Asia.

Ham: Africa and Arabia.

PRINCIPAL NATIONS AND GREAT EMPIRES OF ANCIENT HISTORY.

23rd Century, B.C. Chinese: founder, Fohi.

23rd Century, ,, Egyptians: founder, Menes.

23rd ,, ,, Indians: ,, Bacchus.

20th ,, ,, Hebrews: ,, Abraham.

20th ,, ,, The Annals of Greece began—Inachus, founder of Argos.

20th ,, ,, Phœnicians: Agenor, founder of Tyre.

16th ,, ,, Gauls: founder unknown.

9th ,, ,, Carthaginians: founder, Dido.

8th ,, ,, Romans: ,, Romulus.

7th ,, ,, Persians: ,, Cyrus, but who were before him a nation composed of hordes of savages under separate governors.

24TH, 23RD, AND 22ND CENTURIES B.C.

Africa—Egypt—Assyria.

Menes, first King of Egypt, 2188.—Menes is considered to have been the first king after the supposed reign of the Gods, and the fabulous history of Osiris and Isis. Egypt is situated in the N.E. of Africa. It forms a valley of two hundred leagues (600 miles) fertilised by the inundations of the Nile, a river which runs through its whole length, from South to North. Egypt is naturally divided into three great regions—Lower Egypt or "Delta;" Middle Egypt; and "Thebaid," or "Said," the south. In the 24th Century B.C., Terah the father of Abram lived. Terah is one of the ten post-diluvian patriarchs. They are:—

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| 1. Shem. | 6. Reu. |
| 2. Arphaxad. | 7. Serug. |
| 3. Salah. | 8. Nahor. |
| 4. Eber. | 9. Terah. |
| 5. Pelug. | 10. Abraham. |

Asia—China.

The Chinese Empire.—China is situated in the east of Asia. Peking is the capital.

Fohi is considered to have been the founder of the Chinese Empire.

A Deluge in China.—In the reign of Yao a deluge took place, in which he distinguished himself by his liberality.

Assyria.

Foundation of the first Empire of Assyria, 2234.—Bel is considered the founder of the first empire of Assyria, the principal towns of which were Babylon, founded by Nimrod; and Nineveh, by Ashur.

21ST AND 20TH CENTURIES B.C.

Scripture History.

Abraham and Lot.—Already for a long time had men begun to confound cause and effect. They deified everything ; as Bossuet said—"All was God but God himself." The senses decided everything, and, in spite of reason, made all those gods which were adored upon earth. In consequence of this, the Creator chose Abram to be the father of a people among whom he might preserve the knowledge of the true God. Abram, the son of Terah, is therefore the father of the Hebrews. He was born at Ur, in Chaldea, 1996 B.C. At Ur, God said to Abraham, "Get thee out of thy country, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will show thee" (Gen. xii. 1 verse). Obedient to the Divine command, Abram, with his wife Sarai, and his father Terah, left Ur for Canaan. Terah died at Haran, in Mesopotamia, B.C. 1921 (Gen. xi. 32). After Terah's death, Abram, Sarai, and Lot departed for Canaan, God having said : "In thee shall all the nations of the earth be blessed." At Moreh, between the mountains of Ebal and Gerizim, in the land which has since been called Samaria, God said unto Abram, "Unto thy seed will I give this land" (Gen. xii. 7 verse).

Abram then encamped between Bethel and Hai. In consequence of a dispute which had arisen between the herdsmen of Abram and Lot, a separation was agreed upon, Lot pitching his tent in the vale of Siddim, and Abram at Mamre, B.C. 1918. At Sodom, Lot was taken prisoner by a king, from whose hands he was delivered by Abram. When God purposed to destroy Sodom on account of its great wickedness, he warned Lot to flee from it with his family, forbidding him at the same time to look behind. Lot's wife infringed this command, and was changed into a pillar of salt (Gen. xix. 27).

Hagar, Ishmael, and Isaac.—At the age of ninety years, and having no children by Sarah, Abraham took for his second wife Hagar, Sarah's hand-maid, and he bagat Ishmael. Soon, however, angels sent from Heaven promised that Sarah should have a son

that same year. Accordingly, notwithstanding her advanced age, Sarah gave birth to Isaac, when Ishmael was thirteen years old.

Subsequently, Ishmael, having insulted Isaac, was driven away with Hagar his mother. But God was with the young Ishmael, who became great, and dwelt in the desert, and was progenitor of the Ishmaelites. Abraham afterwards was put to a severe test respecting his faith in God.

Being commanded by the Almighty to sacrifice his son, Abraham was in the act of obeying when an angel substituted a ram for Isaac. Some time after Isaac took for wife Rebecca, daughter of Bethuel. Eleazar, the faithful servant of Abraham, had been sent into Mesopotamia, with the necessary instructions to enable him to recognise Rebecca. This good patriarch died when he was one hundred and seventy-five years old. If in Adam we recall the spirit of rebellion, in Abraham we find that of submission.

Assyria.

After Bel, his son Ninus reigned. Then the celebrated Semiramis, who set the limits of the vast empire. Mesopotamia, Assyria Proper, Media and Babylon, with Chaldea, were the four principal countries of the Empire of Assyria. Semiramis, who succeeded her husband Ninus, immortalized her name by constructing the Hanging Gardens at Babylon. They are one of the Seven Wonders of the World. Ninias, her son, who was a weak and irresolute prince, succeeded her.

19TH, 18TH, AND 17TH CENTURIES B.C.

Scripture History.

Esau and Jacob.—Isaac had by Rebecca two sons, Esau and Jacob. One day Esau, on returning from the field weary and faint, begged his brother to give him food, but Jacob only consented to give the dish of red pottage he was then preparing on condition that Esau should in exchange give him his birthright. This was accepted: thus “Esau despised his birthright,” says the scripture (Gen. xxv. 34), 1805. Jacob also obtained the paternal blessing and confirmation of the birthright, by the stratagem of his mother; but, fearing the anger of his brother, he retired to his uncle Laban’s, whose daughters, Leah and Rachel, were given him in marriage. On his way to his uncle’s, Jacob had a dream, in which he saw a ladder leading from earth to heaven, with angels ascending and descending.

God himself appeared to him, and renewed the promises made to Abraham. In time Jacob wished to revisit the Land of Canaan. On his way there he was informed that Esau was coming out to meet him at the head of armed men. However, God renewed his courage by sending an angel in the form of a man, who wrestled with him without prevailing against him, therefore he was called “Strong against God.” Esau on his side felt his anger appeased. The two brothers met, and embraced each other tenderly. Jacob’s sons are:—

Reuben.	Dan.
Simeon.	Gad.
Levi.	Asher.
Judah.	Naphtali.
Zebulon.	Joseph.
Issachar.	Benjamin.

Joseph was the first-born of Rachel, and became his father’s favorite child. Joseph’s premature wisdom excited the jealousy of his brothers so much, that they ultimately sold him to a company of Ishmaelites. The latter carried him away into Egypt, where he was bought by Potiphar, captain of the king’s guard, a.c. 1729.

Joseph being afterwards unjustly accused by the wife of Potiphar, was thrown into prison. He found there the king's chief butler and baker, whose destinies he foretold by the interpretation of their dreams, 1718.

Two years after this Pharaoh himself had two strange dreams. In the first he was on the banks of the Nile, from whence came seven cows, fat and well favored; and then seven lean and ill-favored, who devoured the first. The second dream revealed seven ears of corn, springing up full and good on one stalk, and seven ears, withered and blasted by the east wind, which devoured the good ones. Pharaoh vainly consulted all the diviners in Egypt. The chief butler, whose dream Joseph had interpreted, spoke of him to Pharaoh, who accordingly desired Joseph to be brought.

The king related his dream, and Joseph explained it by predicting seven years of plenty, followed by seven years of famine. Pharaoh, admiring the wisdom of Joseph, confided to him the government of his kingdom, which confidence was well reposed.

During the seven years of plenty, Joseph, as chief ruler, caused all the public granaries to be filled. The famine which followed was great, and extended far and wide.

Jacob sent his sons into Egypt. Joseph could scarcely refrain from tears on seeing his brother Benjamin, son of Rachel. He pardoned his brothers' criminal conduct, and sent them back to the land of Canaan, desiring that they should return to Egypt with their aged father. Jacob's joy was unbounded at his meeting with his well-beloved son. Joseph presented his father to Pharaoh, who received him with the respect due to his age, and Jacob answered him: "The days of the years of my pilgrimage are a hundred and thirty years; few and evil have they been, and they have not attained unto those of my fathers."

The Hebrews at this time established themselves in Egypt, in the land of Goshen.

Africa—Egypt.

Mæris. Hysesos.—In this century Mæris lived, celebrated by the lake which bears his name. This lake, situated at about four leagues (twelve miles) from the Nile, was formed for the purpose

of receiving the overflow. Hycsos is the name of pastoral kings or chiefs of nomad tribes of Arabs who invaded Egypt. It is supposed that Thoutmoses destroyed their dominion.

Greece.

Inachus, founder of Argos, 1988.—In this century a famous hero, named Inachus, a Phœnician according to some, and an Egyptian according to others, went and settled in Argos, a province in Peloponnesus, where he founded Argos. The annals of Greece date from this time, but its history at this period is very obscure.

Foundation of Sicyonia.—The Greeks call themselves aborigines, but this pretension has no foundation. It is quite probable that the Pelasgi from the East were the first inhabitants of Greece. Œgialeus, founder and first king of Sicyon, in Peloponnesus, was the son of Inachus. The history of Greece, at that time in great obscurity, afterwards became as instructive as it was interesting.

16TH CENTURY B.C.

Scripture History—Egypt.

God's peculiar people—the Jews—were at this time still in Egypt, from whence they did not depart till the 15th century.

Europe—Greece.

Divisions of Greece.—Greece is a country situated in the south of Europe ; its limits were never precisely fixed by the ancients. At one time the name of Greece was given to its four principal provinces : 1st, Peloponesia, capital Sparta ; 2nd, Greece proper, capital Athens ; 3rd, Thessaly ; 4th, Epirus. Later on, to these four provinces were added Illyria, Macedonia, Thrace, and the Isles. It is said that in this century a deluge took place in Greece, during the reign of Ogyges, king of Ogygia. Fiction also relates that Danaüs, king of Argos, had fifty daughters who married the fifty sons of Egyptus, whom they slew on the night of their nuptials. Hypermnestra spared her husband Lynceus, who avenged his brothers' death by slaying Danaüs. Jupiter precipitated the Danaïdes into Tartarus, and condemned them to fill a pierced cask. (*Heath. myth.*)

Ceres and Triptolemus, who invented and perfected agriculture among the Greeks, are supposed to have lived in this reign. Ceres was afterwards worshipped as the Goddess of Harvest, and believed to return each year upon earth in search of her daughter Proserpine, whom Pluto (God of Hell) had carried off. From this idea may be traced a beautiful emblem of the yearly returning Harvest of the Earth.

Gaul, 1500.—Invasion of Gauls in Iberia, and of the Iberians in Gaul.

15TH CENTURY B.C.

Scripture History.

Birth of Moses.—At this time there arose in Egypt a new king, "which knew not Joseph," and said to his people:—"Behold the people of the children of Israel are more and mightier than we," (Exodus i. 9). Then it was that Jochabed, a Hebrew woman, of the tribe of Levi, had a son, and hid him; but fearing she might be found out, she laid him in a basket, and placed it among the rushes of the Nile.

Pharaoh's daughter, on coming to the river to bathe, discovered the child whose destiny was to be so remarkable. She caused him to be nursed by his own mother, and brought up at the palace as her adopted son, giving him the name of Moses, which signifies "Saved from the waters," 1571. Moses was instructed in all the Egyptian sciences, but he did not forget his brethren while in the palace. One day he killed an Egyptian whom he found ill-treating a Hebrew, and, fearing discovery, fled to the desert.

Moses and Jethro.—A man arrived one day in the land of Midian fatigued, and sat himself down by a well. It was towards evening. Now there was in this country a priest who had seven daughters, and these women came to draw water for their father's flocks. Some shepherds also approached, and drove them away; but the stranger rose, defended them, and gave their flocks water. When these maidens returned to their father, he asked them why they were earlier than usual, to which they replied: "An Egyptian delivered us out of the hands of the shepherds, and also drew water enough for us, and watered the flocks." The sire demanded where he was. "Why did you leave him?" said he. "Call him, that he may eat bread" (Exodus ii. 20). And the stranger thus welcomed was content to dwell with the priest in the land of Midian, and married Zipporah, one of his daughters. This man was Moses. One day when Moses was tending the flocks of Jethro, his father-in-law, God appeared to him in a burning bush on Mount Horeb, a peak of Mount Sinai, and com-

manded him to go and demand of Pharaoh the liberty of his people—the children of Israel. “Thus saith the Lord: ‘Let my people go, that they may serve me.’”

The miracles of Moses being imitated by the magicians, Pharaoh hardened his heart; but God compelled him to liberate the Jews, by sending a most terrible chastisement, in the form of

THE TEN PLAGUES.

The Passage of the Red Sea took place the day after Pass-over, B.C. 1491. The Israelites wandered forty years in the Desert of Sin in Arabia. In this desert God gave to them his laws. He wrote the Ten Commandments on two tables of stone, and gave them to Moses on the top of Mount Sinai. They contain briefly the principles of man's duty to God, and also to his neighbour.

Moses died at the age of one hundred and thirty, on Mount Nebo, in sight of the Promised Land, 1451 B.C. “And there arose not a prophet since in Israel like unto Moses, whom the Lord knew face to face” (Deut. xxxiv. 10).

Joshua—Entry of the Jews into the Promised Land, 1451.—After the death of Moses the children of Israel entered the Promised Land, Palestine, or Judea, a country of Western Asia.

After Joshua the government of the Israelites fell into the hands of the elders of each tribe.

Egypt—Greece.

Some suppose that Ramesis, Amenophis, and Sesostris, Pharaohs of Egypt, lived at this time, and that Agenor founded Tyre in this century.

Tyre became the most commercial city of antiquity.

14TH CENTURY B.C.

Scripture History.

First Servitude and Judgeship, 1402-1356. — And thus the promises of God were fulfilled: his people passed the Jordan, took Jericho by a miracle, conquered a great part of the Holy Land, after defeating thirty kings.

"Notwithstanding this, they did evil in the sight of the Lord," and fell into the hands of their enemies.

On their repentance, however, God sent them a deliverer, Othniel, brother to Caleb. With Othniel began the government of the Judges. The following are the names of those who successively delivered the Israelites from the bondage of their enemies :—

- | | |
|---------------|--------------|
| 1. Othniel. | 8. Jephthah. |
| 2. Ehud. | 9. Ibzan. |
| 3. Deborah. | 10. Elon. |
| 4. Gideon. | 11. Abdon. |
| 5. Abimelech. | 12. Samson. |
| 6. Tola. | 13. Eli. |
| 7. Zair. | 14. Samuel. |

Europe—Greece—Gaul.

Foundation of the principal cities of Greece.—The Egyptian Oecrops was the founder of Athens, he also instituted the Areopagus; * Cadmus founded Thebes; Sisyphus, Corinth; Selex, Sparta. About this time a deluge took place, in the reign of Deucalion, king of Thessaly. According to fiction, Deucalion, and his wife Pyrrha, were alone saved, on account of their probity. They took refuge on Mount Parnassus, and received from the oracle of Themis the command to throw behind the bones of their grandmother, so as to re-people the earth. Understanding from

* The highest court of judicature among the Greeks, held at Athens, on Mars Hill.

this that the stones were the bones, they picked up the stones and cast them behind them: those Deucalion threw became men, while those Pyrrhus threw became women. Deucalion instituted the tribunal of Amphictyons, for maintaining public safety.

Helen, another king, reigned in Thessaly; his subjects received from him the name of Hellenists.

Minos, King and Law-giver of the Cretans.—Minos was king and law-giver of the Cretans in this century. The wisdom of his legislation gained for him, after death, from the poets, the reputation of Judge of Hell.

Italy.—Janus, king of Italy, whom fiction represents as having had two faces, lived at this time.

Gaul, from 1400 to 1300.—First expedition of the Gauls in Italy, consisting of people who received the vague name of the Umbri.

13TH CENTURY B.C.

Scripture History.

Second and Third Servitude and Judgeships.—After Othniel the Jews again fell into idolatry, and this time, Eglon, king of Moab, enslaved them for eighteen years.

They besought the Lord, and he raised them up a deliverer named Ehud, 1336. The children of Israel sent presents to Eglon, by Ehud, who killed him during the interview.

From the year 1316 the children of Israel began to do evil in the sight of the Lord, and fell into another servitude under Jabin, king of the Canaanites. His general was Sisera, who lived at Xarosoth, the City of Nations. Jabin oppressed the Jews for twenty years. They were delivered by Deborah, assisted by Barak.

In the year 1396, "The inhabitants of the villages ceased, they ceased in Israel, until that I Deborah arose, that I arose a mother in Israel" (Song of Deborah, Judges v. 7).

The Jews remained in peace during forty years, then again fell into servitude. Gideon, of glorious memory, pursued and defeated the Midianites, 1340. Abimelech, his son, usurped authority by the murder of his brothers, exercised it tyrannically, and died assassinated. Tola succeeded Abimelech.

Europe—Greece.

Greek Heroes of this Century.—Amphion, who built the walls of Thebes by the sound of his lyre; Perseus, founder of Mycenæ; Hercules, whose wonderful feats seemed to have surpassed in glory those of all his rivals; Jason, chief of the expedition of the Argonauts, or of the "Golden Fleece," in Colchis; the unfortunate Ædipus, king of Thebes; the glorious Theseus, conqueror of the Minotaur; Castor and Pollux, whom their fraternal love (*sic Heath. myth.*) immortalised; Orpheus, admirable musician and poet; and many other illustrious persons, who are cited in Grecian history, but whose names belong, more properly speaking, to heathen mythology.

12TH CENTURY B.C.

Scripture History.

Asia—Judea.

Fifth Servitude.—Jephthah, ninth judge of the Hebrews, succeeded Zair in this capacity. He marched against the Amorites, and vowed if he came off victorious that he would sacrifice the first creature he met on his return home. He defeated the Ammonites, and as he was returning his only daughter came out to meet him in a transport of joy. Alas for Jephthah's rash vow! Judges xi. 40.

Sixth Servitude.—Having again done that which was wrong before God, the Jews again fell into bondage. At this time Samson arose, the twelfth Judge in Israel. Endowed with prodigious strength, he overcame the Philistines in several encounters. One day, armed with the jaw-bone of an ass, he slew a thousand of them. But, suffice it to say, that Samson died fulfilling his mission, viz., that of delivering his countrymen from their bondage.

Siege and taking of Troy.—Paris, son of Priam, king of Troy, in Asia Minor, carried off Helen, wife of Menelaus, king of Sparta. The Greek princes formed a league to avenge this affront, and laid siege to Troy.

This siege, rendered famous by the poet Homer, lasted ten years, from 1194 to 1184. Troy was taken by stratagem. A wooden horse, filled with soldiers, was introduced into the town, which was then soon reduced to ashes. The invulnerable Achilles, the proud Ulysses, Agamemnon, king of Greece, Sarpedon, the wise Nestor, the furious Ajax, were the heroes of the Greek camp. On the Trojan side must be cited Priam, his noble son Hector, and Æneas, who, with other fugitives from Troy, went and fixed themselves in Italy.

Return of the Heraclides.—The Pelopides, descendants of Pelops, had, in the 14th century, driven the Heraclides, sons of Hercules, from Peloponessus. In the 12th century, the Heraclides came back, and in their turn drove away the Pelopides. Thus vanquished, they left Greece, and founded some colonies in Asia Minor, among others Æolia, Ionia, and Doris.

11TH CENTURY B.C.

Scripture History.

Asia—Judea.

Samuel, last Judge — Seventh Servitude. — To Samson succeeded Eli; and after him Samuel became the fourteenth and last judge of Israel. He was born at Rama, of the tribe of Ephraim, towards 1171. Being dedicated to God from his infancy, he was brought up in the Tabernacle by the high priest Eli. Subsequently, as judge, he made the people of Israel very happy for many years. By his prayers he delivered them from the seventh servitude; but his sons, to whom he had delegated authority, abused their power, and the people demanded a king.

After vainly endeavouring to deter the Israelites from this project, Samuel anointed Saul king, 1080, still retaining for himself the priestly functions. Saul afterwards venturing to perform the priestly functions, the kingdom was transferred to the family of David, who was secretly anointed by Samuel. This faithful prophet and judge of Israel died three years before the fall of Saul, 1042. The eve before the battle of Gilboa, the spirit of Samuel, conjured by the witch of Endor, appeared to Saul, and announced his dreadful doom.

David, 1048 B.C. — David was born at Bethlehem; he kept his father's flocks at the age of fifteen, when designed by Samuel to succeed Saul, and received the royal functions. He killed the Philistine giant Goliath, who defied the Jews, and made his name glorious on several other occasions; but Saul, jealous of his success, sought to slay him, which compelled David to hide himself for some years. After the death of Saul, David was proclaimed king at Hebron, at the age of 37, 1048. He took Jerusalem from the Jebusites, and made it his capital; he conquered the kings of Syria and Mesopotamia, but he sullied his glory by guilty passions. He caused the death of Uriah, whom he got rid of in order to marry his wife Bathsheba. However, by penitence, he obtained the pardon of God. He had also great family troubles,—one of his sons, Amon, having been killed by his

brother Absalom, and the latter revolted against his father. David died about 1015, leaving his throne to Solomon, the youngest of his sons. The Psalms composed by David are rightly considered the master-piece of lyric poetry.

Solomon, 1015 to 962—The Temple built.—To the conqueror of the proud Goliath, to the great prophet, to the admirable psalmist of the wonders of the Almighty, to the greatest of kings, to David succeeded his son, the wise Solomon. He had to defend himself against the pretensions of his brother Adonias, over whom he triumphed. At length, in peace at home and abroad, he was permitted the privilege of building the Temple of God, and its dedication was celebrated with great magnificence, 1000. He also surrounded Jerusalem with walls, and founded several towns, among others Palmyra, and preserved justice and order; he extended the limits of his kingdom to the Euphrates; and was specially renowned for his wisdom. The Queen of Sheba, attracted by his high reputation, left her country to go and do him homage.

But alas! intoxicated by his prosperity, Solomon, at the close of his life, tarnished his glory by unpardonable weakness.

This great king was very learned, and was well versed in all the eastern sciences. To him are attributed "The Song of Solomon," the Ecclesiastes, and the book of "Wisdom."

Europe—Greece—Gaul.

Devotion of Codrus, last King of Athens.—Fact worthy of note. At the time the Jews were asking for a king, the Athenians were adopting a republican government. The circumstances were as follows: The Heraclides having just made an incursion into Greece Proper, Codrus, king of Athens, consulted the oracle, which declared that the nation whose king should lose his life would come off triumphant. Codrus, therefore, permitted himself to be killed by one of the Heraclides, and the Athenians, victorious, declared that none after Codrus could dare take the title of king.

Gaul, 1100 to 1000 B.C.—The Ambrones conquered by the Etruscans. Foundation of Nîmes.

10TH CENTURY B.C.

Scripture History.

Asia—Judea.

Death of Solomon.—Schism of the ten tribes, 975. Solomon's faults could not remain unpunished. Under the reign of his son, Rehoboam, ten tribes of the kingdom revolted, and invited Jeroboam to reign over them. Jeroboam thus became king of Israel, of which Samaria was the capital, and the tribe of Judah alone served the house of David, the capital of which was Jerusalem.

Whilst impiety and idolatry reigned in Israel, religion was preserved in Judea. In the reign of Jehoshaphat, king of Judea, justice and piety flourished; while the infamous Ahab and his wife, Jezebel, who reigned in Israel (907), added to the idolatry of the Gentiles all manner of wickedness. They slew Naboth for refusing to sell them the heritage of his fathers, but Ahab and Jezebel perished ignominiously.

Greece—India—Egypt.

Homer.—Composed two poems: the Iliad and the Odyssey. Hesiod entitled his poem "The work and the times."

India.—Meno, a celebrated Indian lawgiver, lived in this century.

Egypt.—At this time the Pharaoh (or king) Cheops built the highest of the Egyptian Pyramids.

9TH CENTURY B.C.

Scripture History.

Asia—Judea.

Kingdom of Judea.—Athaliah, daughter of Jezebel.—After the death of her husband and his son, Ochosias, Athaliah caused her grandchildren to be massacred. Josiah alone escaped the fury of his grandmother, whom he had strangled in sight of the temple, and reigned after her over the kingdom of Judea, 870 B.C. As long as Jehoida, the great high-priest, lived, Josiah kept the law of Moses, but upon the death of his virtuous guide, he gave himself up to idolatry.

Amaziah, his son, succeeded him. Osiah, son of Amaziah, reigned with justice ; but wishing to intermeddle with the sacerdotal functions, he was struck with leprosy.

Kingdom of Israel.—Ochosias succeeded Ahab. We must not confound him with Ochosias, king of Judea, son of Athaliah. The prophet Elijah had predicted his death. Jeroboam, his fifth successor, re-established the limits of the king.

Asia—Europe—Africa.

Jonas, Lycurgus, Dido.—About this time Jonas went and predicted the destruction of Nineveh ; but God pardoned its people.

In the reign of Athaliah, Lycurgus gave laws to the Spartans, the people of Peloponesia ; and Dido, sister of Pygmalion, king of Tyre, in Phœnicia, founded Carthage, on the north coast of Africa.

Numitor, son of Procas, reigned over the Latins in Italy. He was dethroned by Annelus.

8TH CENTURY B.C.

Scripture History.

Asia—Judea.

Uzziah, Jotham, Hezekiah.—Uzziah, who had dared to usurp the functions of high priest, had been struck with leprosy. Jotham, his son, was therefore obliged to take upon himself the reins of government ; but he refused to take the title of king till after the death of his father, 752. The filial respect of Jotham deserves to be recorded by history. The pious Hezekiah, grandson of Jotham, king of Judah, was besieged in Jerusalem by Sennacherib, son of Salmanezar ; but, in one night, an angel of God destroyed the army of the king of Assyria.

Israel.—In the ninth year of the reign of Osias, the king of Assyria took Samaria, and carried the Israelites away captive into Syria. The end of the kingdom of Israel dates from 718. Hoshea, its last king, was a murderer. Among the captives that Salmanezar carried away to Nineveh, must be mentioned Tobias, whose history is so interesting.

Asia—Empire of Assyria.

End of First Empire of Assyria.—A little before the foundation of Rome, the empire of Assyria, which was founded in the 20th century, was destroyed, under Sardanapalus, its last king, who died on a funeral pile towards 759, and from the ruins of the empire were formed three kingdoms : those of Media, Babylon, and Nineveh.

Second Kingdom of Assyria, 701.—Assarhaddon re-united Babylon to Nineveh, and thus founded the second Assyrian Empire.

Europe—Rome—Greece.

Foundation of Rome, 753 B.C.—According to tradition, Romulus and Remus, sons of Reah and Sylvia, were suckled by a wolf. Becoming great, they founded that city, which was called

the metropolis of the world. Romulus killed his brother Remus. Rome, the birthplace of so many great men, served in the first place as a refuge for slaves and vagabonds.

Romulus divided his people into patricians and plebians, created a senate, and instituted a triumvirate.

The carrying off of the Sabines.—Romulus made some public games, and invited all the neighbouring peoples to join in them. In the midst of the feasting the Romans seized upon the daughters of their guests, and kept them as their wives. A war was, in consequence, declared ; but, through the mediation of the Sabine women, a peace was concluded. Tatius, king of the Sabines, shared authority with Romulus.

Numa Pompilius, a Sabine, by birth, succeeded Romulus. He organised a religion, and encouraged agriculture. It was believed he was inspired by the nymph Egria, who was afterwards worshipped by the Romans.

Greece — First Messinian War. — Aristodemus immortalised himself by his courage.

7TH CENTURY B.C.

Scripture History.

Asia—Judea.

It is supposed that Manasseh, son of Hezekiah, had the cruelty to cut in two the prophet Isaiah. Manasseh was carried away captive into Babylon, by Assarhaddon's captains ; but, repenting of his sins, God delivered him, and he returned to his throne, and reinstated the worship of Jehovah. His grandson, Josiah, repaired the temple.

Jehoiachim, fourth successor of Manasseh, persecuted the prophet Jeremiah, and was carried, bound in fetters, by Nebuchadnezzar, to Babylon. Liberty was, however, accorded to him on the conditions of his paying tribute and giving hostages,—among whom were Daniel, Shadrach, Meschach, and Abednego. From this date (606) is calculated the commencement of the seventy years' captivity.

Asia—Assyria.

Europe—Greece—Rome.

Assyria.—Nebuchadnezzar I., son of Assarhaddon, succeeded to Nebuchadnezzar. Nabopolassar formed a league with Cyaxares, king of the Medes, against him. Being victorious, they divided his dominions. Nebuchadnezzar II. succeeded his father Nabopolassar.

Greece.—Messina submitted to the Spartans, notwithstanding the heroism of Aristomenes. (*Tyrteus poet.*)

675—Rome.—Tullus Hostilius succeeded Mema. Under him took place the combat of the Horatii and Curatii,—the former Romans, the latter Albans, 640. Ancus Martius (614). Tarquin the elder. This great king subjugated a part of Tuscany, and embellished Rome.

6TH CENTURY B.C.

Scripture History

Asia—Judea.

End of Kingdom of Judea.—Jehoiakim was associated with the crown by his father, Jehoahaz.

In 599, Nebuchadnezzar conquered, and took him captive to Babylon. Zedekiah, uncle of Jehoahaz, was proclaimed in his place. Two years after his elevation, he allied himself to the king of Egypt, to shake off the yoke of the king of Babylon. The latter marched against Judea,—Jerusalem was taken, and sacked, 587. Zedekiah's son was strangled in his presence, his own eyes were put out, and he was taken prisoner to Babylon. It had been prophesied concerning him that he would go to Babylon, but not see that city.

Asia—2nd Empire of Assyria.

Persian Empire.

Nebuchadnezzar changed into a beast.—**End of Second Empire of Assyria.**—Proud of his success, Nebuchadnezzar II. desired to be worshipped, and was, in consequence, condemned by God to be changed into a beast of the field (Daniel iv. 33). Belshazzar was the last king of the second empire of Assyria. He reigned from 555 to 538. Having, at a feast, profaned the holy vessels of the Temple at Jerusalem, he perceived on the walls of the festive hall these mysterious words, "Mene, Mene, Tekel, Upharsin;" Daniel, called upon to explain them, announced to the king that these words predicted his punishment and death.

Cyrus, founder of the Persian Empire, 536.—**Cyaxares II.**, king of Media, and uncle of Cyrus, gave to this hero the command of his troops. Cyrus, first conqueror of Croesus, king of

Lydia, at the battle of Thymbree, soon extended his dominion throughout all Syria, marched on to Babylon, took the city, and submitted it to his uncle, Cyaxares, who named him his heir and successor, giving him his only daughter in marriage. Cyrus put an end to the second kingdom of Assyria, and on its ruins raised the vast empire of Persia. From the first year of his reign, Cyrus gave an edict to re-establish the temple of God, and Jews in Judea; and in the year 536 B.C., Zorobabel and Jesus conducted the Jews to their own land. Cambyses succeeded his father Cyrus, 525; he conquered Egypt. Darius, who may perhaps be the Ahasuerus of the Scriptures, succeeded Cambyses, 521.

Europe—Greece—Rome—Gaul.

Greece.—Solon.—Pisistratus.—Solon gave to the Athenians a code of laws, 559. Pisistratus usurped the sovereignty at Athens. He enjoyed it for thirty years, but his sons were less fortunate. One, Hipparchus, was killed by Harmodius, whose sister he had insulted; the Hippias were driven from Athens, and took refuge in Persia.

Rome.—Commencement of a Republic, 509 B.C.—While the Pisistrati were being exiled from Athens, royalty was also abolished at Rome. Servius Tullus succeeded to Tarquin the Elder; his daughter Tullia, and son-in-law Tarquin, called the Superb, revolted against, and assassinated him. The reign of Tarquin the Superb was as tyrannical as it was brilliant. He was the seventh and last king of Rome.

The crime of his son on the person of Lucretia disgusted the Romans, and caused them to rebel. Royalty was abolished, Tarquin was banished, and the Republic proclaimed. Collatinus, the husband of Lucretia, and Brutus, were nominated consuls. Porsenna, king of Etruria, sustained the cause of the Tarquins, but, shortly after, startled by the heroism of Cloelia, Horatius Cocles, and Mutius Scævola, retired from the Roman territory.

Several patricians, and amongst them the son of Brutus, revolted against the Republic, and the plot being discovered by a slave named Vindex, Brutus himself condemned his own son to death.

Gaul.—Marseilles founded by a colony of Phocians, 600. The Gauls, under the conduct of Bellovesus, 587, penetrated into Italy.

5TH CENTURY B.C.

Scripture History.

Asia—Judea.

Ezra—Nehemiah—Malachi.—A king of Persia, Artaxerxes, permitted Ezra to conduct into their own country those of the Jews who would follow him, and hastened the construction of the Temple of Jerusalem, begun in the last century. Ezra revised the canonical books, arranged them in their present form, besides adding the book entitled "The Book of Ezra."

Nehemiah, cup-bearer to Artaxerxes, obtained permission to build the walls of Jerusalem. Malachi, a name which means "Angel of God," exhorted the people to turn unto the Lord.

Europe—Greece.

The Four Median Wars.—This name has been given to those wars which took place between the Persians and Greeks. The first took place on the occasion of some succour furnished by the Athenians to the Greeks of Ionia, who had revolted against Darius, king of Persia. Sardis was burnt to the ground. Mardonius, the king's son-in-law, was sent against the Greeks. He experienced nothing but misfortune.

The Second Median War.—Datis, and Ataphernes, generals of Darius, conducted a numerous army to Attica, but they were vanquished, by Miltiades, at the famous battle of Marathon, 490.

In the Third, Xerxes, at the head of a million of men, went to Sardis, crossed the Hellespont, and was stopped at Thermopylæ by Leonidas and three hundred Spartans, (480). His naval army was defeated at Salamis by the Athenian Themistocles, and the king of Persia retired in a panic.

The following year, Mardonius, his general, was defeated at Plataea by Pausanias the Spartan, and Aristides the Athenian. On the evening of this famous day the Ionian Greeks triumphed at Mycale, opposite the island of Samos.

The fourth war did not commence till 450. Cimon, son of Miltiades, took possession of the isle of Cyprus, but died at the siege of Citium. However, before dying, he had signed a glorious peace with Artaxerxes, successor to Xerxes, for Athens.

It is sad to record that Miltiades, Themistocles, Aristides, and Cimon, were rewarded with ingratitude by their fellow-citizens. Each of them was exiled.

The Three Peloponnesian Wars.—This name has been given to the struggle between Sparta and Athens.

The first period, from 431 to 421, was nothing but a continued scene of pillaging. During this period, Pericles, a man of genius, who had possessed himself of authority in Athens, died of the plague. The wise Nicias then procured the signing of a peace, which was soon broken.

The second period, from 421 to 412, was signalized by the disastrous expedition into Sicily. It was then that the celebrated Alcibiades, nephew of Pericles, was for a short time governor of Athens.

In the third period, beginning 412, Athens sent away her best general, Alcibiades, who allied himself to her enemies. Lysander, a Spartan general, gained the Battle of Egospotamus, and took Athens, 404. The masters of Athens, to whom has been given the name of the thirty tyrants, gave themselves up to every excess, but, in 403, Thrasybulus delivered his country.

Rome.

The People on the Sacred Mount, 493.—Coriolanus.—Cincinnatus.—At the time the Greeks were fighting against the Persians, the plebeian Romans, who were oppressed by the Patricians, retired with their standard to the Sacred Mount, three miles from Rome. The Senate, alarmed, sent a deputy to this multitude; and it was then that the magistrates named Tribunes were accorded to the people to defend their rights.

Marcus, surnamed Coriolanus for having distinguished himself at the siege of Corioli, ended by making himself odious on account of his haughty bearing. He was exiled. At the head of the Volcians, he came and laid siege to Rome; but he relented

at the tears of his mother, the noble Vetruria, and Rome was saved. Never was revolt expiated in so touching a manner. Meanwhile the struggle continued between the Patricians and Plebeians ; the people, discontented, refused to enlist themselves to the *Veientes*. *Cincinnatus* was twice called from the plough to be Dictator at the head of the army.

Rome sent deputies to Greece, to seek laws.

The legislation of *Solon* answering best to the wants of the Roman Republic, was accepted, 451 B.C.

Ten absolute magistrates were created under the name of *Decemviri* ; their excesses caused their ruin. *Virginius* was honorably, though fearfully, courageous enough to kill his own daughter *Virginia*, that she might escape the disgrace with which she was menaced by *Appius Claudius*, one of the *Decemviri*.

Asia—Persian Empire—Egypt.

Retreat of the Ten Thousand.—*Cambyzes* succeeded his father, *Cyrus*—*Smerdis*, the usurper, was dethroned. *Darius* succeeded him, and commenced the war against the Greeks. *Xerxes*, his son, continued the war. Then followed *Artaxerxes I.*, *Xerxes II.*, surnamed *Sodian* ; in 423, *Darius Nothus* ; 404, *Artaxerxes II.*, surnamed *Mnemon*. His brother, *Cyrus the young*, saved from prison and death by his mother, *Parysatis*, resolved on revenge. He won over to his cause the Satraps, crossed Asia Minor, and went to attack his brother in the heart of the empire, but thinking too much of his victory, he perished through temerity.

The ten thousand Greeks who had entered his service then made that admirable retreat which was conducted first by *Clearchus*, and on his death by *Xenophon*, eminent captain and philosopher, who also wrote an account of it.

Egypt.—At this time the Egyptians groaned under the yoke of the Persians. They revolted three times.

Splendour of Greece.—Great men of 5th Century.—This century, veritable conquest of genius, to which *Pericles* has had the glory of giving his name, is also that of the heroes *Miltiades*,

Themistocles, Aristides, Cimon, Alcibiades, Nicias, and Thrasybules, who were all great orators ; of the poets Pindar, Eschylus, Sophocles, Euripides, Aristophanes ; of the artists Phidias, Appolodorus, Zeuxis ; of the historians Herodotus, Thucydides, and Xenophon ; of the philosophers Socrates and Plato ; of the physician Hippocrates, and many others, who have made of this century that of the splendour of Greece.

4TH CENTURY B.C.

Scripture History.

Asia—Judea.

Jaddua—Alexander.—At the beginning of this century, the Jews were still under the dominion of the Persians. When Alexander sent to demand provisions from the great high priest Jaddua, the latter, declining to betray the confidence of the Persian king, dared to refuse them. Alexander, irritated, marched against Jerusalem. At his approach, Jaddua caused the gates of the town to be thrown open to him, and the streets strewn with flowers; and, adorned in his pontifical ornaments, accompanied by priests robed in sacerdotal garments, followed by a vast multitude, he marched to the rencontre of the conqueror of Darius. On beholding him, Alexander prostrated himself before the true God. Parmenius, the friend of this hero, demanded the reason of these proceedings, and the king confessed that Jaddua, in these same ornaments, had appeared to him in a dream, and promised him the conquest of Asia.

Europe—Greece.

War between Sparta and Thebes.—Epaminondas, the Theban, signalized himself by his honesty and moderation as much as by his victories. It has been remarked that his rule through life was never to tell a lie, even in jest. Under his command, and that of his friend and rival, Pelopidas, the Thebans were conquerors at Leuctra. Epaminondas, and Agesilaus, king of Sparta, both died in the same year, (363),—the one being victorious at Mantinea, and the other after his expedition in Africa. Notwithstanding the eloquence of Demosthenes, courageous defender of liberty, Philip, king of Macedonia, subjected all Greece, and his power became absolute.

After the battle of Cheronea, Philip was assassinated by Pausanias in the celebration of his second marriage. Bagoas killed Arses, king of Persia, in the same year, and proclaimed in his place Darius III. (336).

Europe—Greece—Asia—Africa.

Foundation of the Macedonian Empire, 331.—Alexander, son of Philip, avenged the death of his father; he defied the rebels, who despised his youth, ruined Thebes, and only spared the house of the descendants of Pindarus, whose odes Greece admired.

Powerful and victorious, he marched against Darius at the head of the Greeks, and defeated him in three battles: at Granicus, 335; at Issus, 333; and at Arbela, 331. Shortly after, he heard of the death of Darius; and caused him to be buried in the tomb of the kings of Persia.

This is considered the epoch of the foundation of the Macedonian Empire upon the ruins of that of Persia, 331.

After the submission of several nations, Alexander passed the Indus. Having conquered Porus, an Indian Prince, the former demanded of the latter how he would be treated: "As a king!" replied the noble prisoner, and was treated as such. The soldiers of Alexander refusing to follow him further, Alexander returned to Babylon, where he expired in his glory, 323.

He was thirty-two years old when he died. Alexander designated no successor: "To the worthiest," he said, holding up his crown to his generals.

On the ruins of empire were formed three kingdoms: those of Macedonia; Egypt, (Ptolemy first king); Syria, (Seleucus founder). The division was determined after the battle of Ipsus, gained by Seleucus, Ptolemy, Lysimachus, and Cassander, over Antigonus and Demetrius, 301. A war broke out between Macedonia and the rest of Greece. Polyperchon, regent of Macedonia, condemned to death Phocion, an Athenian general, and virtuous man.

Italy—Rome—Sicily.

Taking of Rome by the Gauls, 390.—Camillus, who, at the time of the war against the Veientes, had been named dictator, was exiled. During this exile, Brennus, chief of the Gauls, took Rome, 390. Camillus returned to triumph over the Gauls, and thus revenge himself of his fellow-citizens. Manlius Capitolanus,

thus surnamed because he had saved the Capitol from the fury of the Gauls, aspired, it is said, to the sovereign power; but was soon the victim of his own ambition, for he was condemned to be precipitated from the top of the Tarpeian Rock, opposite the Capitol.

Curtius, 360.—Tradition relates that a chasm having opened in the middle of the Forum, the oracle declared that it could never be closed until Rome had thrown into it her greatest treasure. The young Curtius threw himself in armed, and it immediately closed. (*Sic "Hea. Myth."*) This event, taken even figuratively, contains a high moral relative to *patriotism*,—a love of country, to which, in the moment of danger, youth, courage, and riches, all must be sacrificed.

War against the Samnites.—In 343, a war, which was renewed seven times, broke out between the Romans and the Samnites. During this great struggle, from which the Romans came out victorious, on their side are to be remarked Papirius, Decius Mus, Curius Dentatus, and Fabricius. On the Samnite side is recorded Pontius Herennius, the conqueror of Caudium, where he caused the Roman army to pass under the yoke: from thence the name of "Caudine Forks."

Sicily—Denys, the tyrant.—In this century, Denys reigned in Sicily, at Syracuse, and was famous for his tyranny (400). Denys II., driven from the throne, retired to Corinth, where he became a schoolmaster. One day, when some children were insulting him on a public square, he exclaimed, "And yet once I was a king!"

Great Men of the Arts and Sciences of the 4th Century.—This century is that of the orators—Demosthenes (greatest of all); Lysias, the honest; Isocrates, the gracious; Eschinal, the venal, &c.: of the philosophers—Theodorus, the atheist; Zeno, the stoic; Aristotle, the great, to whom Philip of Macedonia wrote that he congratulated himself less that he had a son, than that this son (Alexander) had been born in Aristotle's time; Diogenes, the cynic; Theophrastus; Calisthenes, &c.: of the poets—Menander, &c.: of the painters—Pamphilus, Apelles, Themantes, &c.: the sculptors—Praxiteles, Lysippus, (304).

The seven wonders of the world are:—1st, the Suspended Gardens of Babylon; 2nd, the Pyramids of Egypt; 3rd, the Alexan-

drian Light-house ; 4th, the Colossus at Rhodes ; 5th. Jupiter's Olympiad of Phidias ; 6th, the Temple of Diana at Ephesus ; 7th, the Tomb of Mausolus, raised by Artemisia, his sister, and wife.

3RD CENTURY B.C.

Scripture History.

Egypt.

Version of the Septuagint.—Ptolemy, son of Lagus, surnamed Soter, that is, "A Saviour," received Egypt as his portion on the death of Alexander. He contributed to the obtaining of the battle of Ipsus, conquered Tyre and Sidon, and added other provinces to his state, in which letters, arts, and sciences flourished. In 285, he bequeathed his throne to his son, Ptolemy Philadelphus. Judea was part of the kingdom of Ptolemy Soter. It was to Ptolemy II., Philadelphus, that Simon Eleazer, sovereign Pontiff, sent the seventy interpreters to translate the *Old Testament*. This translation is celebrated by the name of the Version of the Septuagint.

Asia—Syria.

Seleucus Nicator.—**Antiochus the Great.**—**Era of the Seleucides.**—Seleucus Nicator, one of Alexander's generals, took possession of Asia Proper. From the time of his accession to the throne, dates the era of the Seleucides, 311 B.C. After the decisive victory of Ipsus, he united to his vast states of Syria, those of Phrygia and Mesopotamia. It was under Seleucus II., third successor of Seleucus I., that the Parthian empire was formed, of which Arsaces was the true founder. We shall mention this empire further on. Antiochus III., successor to Seleucus Nicator; he took Judea from the king of Egypt, 203, and under him the Jews enjoyed security.

Europe—Greece.

Kingdom of Macedonia.—**Achaean League.**—After the battle of Ipsus, Cassander had the kingdom of Macedonia; he died

297. His eldest son, Philip, who succeeded him, only reigned seven months. Ptolemy, son of Antigonus, who, after the battle of Ipsus, had retired into Greece, then proclaimed himself king of Macedonia and all the greater part of Greece. Defeated, first by Pyrrhus, and then by Seleucus, he ended his life as a captive. Supported by Ptolemy Soter, the Greek cities had profited by the troubles of Macedonia, (287-276), to recover their liberty: then was formed the Achæan League, of which Aratus and Philopœmen were the chief heroes.

Irruption of the Gauls in Greece.—In 279 the Gauls invaded Greece. When about to pillage the temple of Delphos, they were seized with a panic, and were all massacred by the Greeks.

War against Pyrrhus.—The chief city of Tarento, formerly Tarentum, menaced by the Romans, called to its aid Pyrrhus, king of Epirus, (280). Arrived at Tarento, Pyrrhus ordered the baths and theatres to be closed, and the citizens to arm themselves. The first battle took place near Heraclea. The elephants, which the Romans had never seen before, threw their ranks into disorder; they left fifteen thousand men upon the field, but Pyrrhus lost thirteen thousand. "Another similar victory," said he, "and I shall return to Epirus without an army." He also sent his minister Cineas to Rome to propose a peace. Cineas received the order to leave Rome immediately.

"The Senate," said he, on his return, "seemed like an assembly of kings." After some other attempts, and several defeats, Pyrrhus retired into his own kingdom. He was killed in a combat in Argos.

Punic Wars: the First, from 264 to 242; the Second, from 219 to 201; the Third, from 149 to 146 B.C.—The name of Punic Wars has been given to three celebrated wars between the Romans and Carthaginians. The two Republics, which had both made such great conquests, at last came in contact.

First Punic War.—Regulus is the hero of the first Punic War. He conquered the Carthaginians, and reduced them to sue for peace; while they were debating upon the terms, he was defeated and taken at Aunis, 250. The Carthaginians gave him his liberty on parole, so that he might accompany the deputation sent by them to Rome to demand the exchange of prisoners, but instead of upholding this measure, Regulus only spoke in the

Senate to dissuade his fellow-citizens from it. After thus speaking against himself, he returned to Carthage, and died.

Second Punic War.—Scipio, on the Roman side, Hannibal, on the Carthaginian, are the two heroes of the second Punic War. Scipio, born 265 B.C., began his military career by saving the life of his father at the combat of Tesin. At the age of twenty-four he took Carthage, and conquered the whole of Spain. Recalled into Italy to contest with Hannibal, he transported the theatre of the war into Africa. Conqueror at Zœma, 202, of the great Carthaginian Captains, he was recompensed by the name of Africanus. Hannibal was born 247 B.C. From his infancy his father, Hamilcar, had forced him to swear an implacable hatred for the Romans, and, arrived at manhood, he was on the point of putting the city of Romulus under him, at the victories of Treba, Trasimenius, and Cannœ.

Forced to exile himself, shortly after his defeat at Zœma, he took refuge with Antiochus, king of Syria, and afterwards with Prusias, king of Bythnia. The latter having promised to give him into the hands of his enemies, Hannibal took poison and died, rather than fall into their hands living (183), the same year in which Scipio died.

Asia.

Foundation of the kingdom of Parthia.—The Parthians remained for a long time unknown. They submitted to Alexander, like all the other neighbouring people. After the death of this conqueror, Arsaces had himself proclaimed king, and began the monarchy of the Parthians, who in time subjugated a part of Asia. Arsaces, in sustaining a war against the generals of Antiochus, was wounded to death in an action. Orodes, one of his successors, declared war against the Romans, and defeated one of their armies entirely in a battle in which Crassus, who commanded, was killed, with his son.

The Parthians took the part of Pompey against Cæsar. After that there continued great warfare between them and the Romans, in which the former often had the advantage. These people were very clever in the use of the bow and arrow, particularly in retreating, which rendered them formidable to their enemies.

Great men in the Arts and Sciences.—The philosophers Arcemilaus, Epicurus, Sadoc; the historians Manetho, Fabius, Pictor; the poets Theocritus-Ennius and Plautus; the geometrician Archimedes,—lived in this century, 3rd B.C.

2ND CENTURY B.C.

Scripture History.

Asia—Judea.

History of Heliodorus.—We know that the Jews, persecuted by Ptolemy Philadelphus, submitted gladly to the domination of the King of Syria, Antiochus III. the Great, who exempted from tribute, for three years, all those who settled at Jerusalem. But his successor, wishing to strip the temple of its riches, in order to pay a tribute imposed on him by the Romans, Heliodorus, his minister, was on the point of breaking open the door of the treasury, when he beheld an armed cavalier, who threw himself upon him, and trampled him under foot, while two other young men struck him violently. His soldiers carried him away, half dead. He never again dared to return to Jerusalem. "If you have a traitor to punish," said the king, "send him to the Temple of Jerusalem." Antiochus IV. Epiphanes, another son of Antiochus the Great, also persecuted the Jews. He commanded the death of the seven brothers Maccabæus, and of their heroic mother. In those days there arose Mattathias, of the family of the Asmonean Maccabæus, pontificator of the race of Phineas: he opposed courageously the tyrannical orders given by Antiochus Epiphanes to constrain the Jews to sacrifice to idols. He drove away the Syrians, and rebuilt the altars of the true God. He died in the midst of his successes, 167, leaving five sons,—Judas, Simon, Jonathas, John, and Eleazar.

Under Antiochus Eupator (164) the persecution of the people of God and the victories of Judas Maccabæus continue. At last, overwhelmed by the multitude, he died fighting.

New Royalty among the Jews.—King Aristobulus I., 107.—Simon, successor of Jonathas, obtained the liberty of his country from Demetrius Nicator, and the Jews accorded to his family the right of royalty. However, Simon, and his son Hyrcanus, are contented with the title of Grand Duke.

Aristobulus, son of Hyrcanus, after having strengthened Judea, took the title of king. He reigned one year, and behaved cruelly.

Greece.—Italy.—Africa.

Macedonian Wars.—In the preceding century, Philip V., king of Macedonia, had formed an alliance with Hannibal, against the advice of Aratus, whom he caused to be poisoned.

This alliance, which dates from 214, was the cause of the first Macedonian War; the fleet of Philip V. was destroyed.

A second war broke out in 200, Philip being again defeated.

After that time he withstood all the solicitations of Hannibal and Antiochus the Great, who urged him to renew the war. The Prætor of the Etolian League called to his help Antiochus the Great, king of Syria; but this prince, who had already done many great things, did not show much prudence in the war against the Romans.

Reduction of Greece to a Roman Province, 146 B.C.—Perseus, successor of Philip, was at first successful; but in the fourth year of the war he was entirely defeated, near Pydna, by Paul Emilius.

Macedonia, raised first as a Republic, was reduced to a Roman province in 148; all Greece had, in time, the same fate, after the destruction of Corinth, 146, by the Consul Muminus.

Third Punic War.—Ruin of Carthage, 146.—Between the Second and Third Punic War, Carthage had to defend herself against her mercenary troops—who revolted because their pay was in arrear—a terrible combat, which precipitated her ruin.

Carthage, taken in 146 by Scipio Æmilianus, son of Paul Emilius, was pillaged, and burnt to the ground.

Viriathus.—The Gracchi.—At this period there appeared on the scene of events, Viriathus, who, from a shepherd, became head of a party which strove, during eight years, against the Republic, and who perished by the hand of an assassin, 141. The Gracchi, descendants of Scipio by their illustrious mother Cornelia, attempted a reform in favor of the Plebeians, but failed. Tiberius Gracchus, and Caius, his brother, died assassinated, from 133 to 121. Jugurtha, king of Numidia, whom his crimes have rendered celebrated; Marius, conqueror of the Cimbri, 102; and Cato, censor, who died 148. This century is also that of Plautus, Terence, and Menander, comic Latin poets, and of Polybius, Grecian historian. Terence died, at the age of thirty-five, of grief, at having lost a great number of his plays.

1ST CENTURY B.C.

John.—Alexandra.—John, son of Aristobulus, was clever, but was nevertheless driven from his kingdom, and for ten years carried on a cruel war against his subjects. At his death, his wife, Alexandra, governed the Jews for nine years. During her reign the Pharisees, a Jewish sect, committed strange disorders, (79-40). Hyrcanus II., son of Alexandra, succeeded her, but was dethroned by his brother, Aristobulus ; then restored by the Romans, commanded by Pompey ; again overthrown by Antigonus II., son of Aristobulus.

King Herod.—Herod, surnamed the Great, son of Antipator, minister of Hyrcanus, was born 72 B.C.

He was at first governor of Galilee, under the Romans. During the Civil Wars of Rome, he attached himself, alternately, to Cassius, and to Antonius. The latter made him king of Judea, in place of Antigonus II.

Herod was suspicious and cruel. Having heard that a child had been born who might become king of Judea, he caused all the male infants in Bethlehem, under two years, to be massacred.

He died one year after the birth of Christ. Notwithstanding his crimes, Herod had some good qualities ; it is said that during a famine he sold all his plate for the succour of his subjects.

Italy—Rome.

Marius and Sylla.—Mithridates, king of Pontus.—Scarcely rescued by Marius from the Cimbri, Rome rushed into another danger : all Italy rose against her. This war was called a social war, or that of the allies. At this time there appeared in Asia one of Rome's most obstinate enemies.

Mithridates, king of Pontus, had invaded several Roman provinces, and in the fear of being betrayed by the Romans who inhabited them, he caused eighty thousand of them to be beheaded. Mithridates, master of Asia, passed the Hellespont, took possession of Athens, and of the greater part of Greece (89).

Marius and Sylla both intrigued for the honor of combating Mithridates, king of Pontus. Sylla prevailed over his rival, who was obliged to flee for his life. He was one day seen among the ruins of Carthage.

After conquering Thracia, Macedonia, and Asia,—after having made peace with Mithridates,—Sylla returned, at the head of his victorious army, under the walls of Rome. He entered this city as its master, and caused himself to be chosen dictator (82); and then began those dreadful proscriptions, which we cannot attempt to depict here. Sylla could voluntarily give up the sovereign power, but he could not prevent the mischief done by his bad example. Each one wished to govern.

Sartorius, Spartacus, Catiline, Cicero.—Sartorius, a Roman general, had declared himself for Marius, and sought to re-establish his cause, on the death of Sylla. He took up his quarters in Spain. His ability was great; but wherever he was not, his lieutenants were beaten. One of them, Perpenna, assassinated him. Pompey destroyed the base Perpenna. Just reward for such an ignominious action.

Sartorius had inspired his soldiers with blind confidence. He had persuaded them that he was in communication with the gods, from whom he received help, by means of a white hind, which he had trained to follow him everywhere.

Spartacus (75) had been a shepherd of Thracia, his native land. Enslaved by the Romans, he was forced to fight in the arena as a gladiator. He escaped from prison, and assembled, under his command, thirty thousand slaves. He carried off several victories, but was defeated by Crassus, and fell covered with wounds, heroically defending himself.

Catiline, of an illustrious Roman family, debased himself from youth by his vices and crimes. He formed a conspiracy tending (it is said) to the destruction of Rome by fire and sword. It was discovered by Cicero. Catiline placed himself at the head of the army of his partizans, but failing, caused himself to be killed near Pistoria.

Cæsar, Pompey, Crassus.—First Triumvirate.—Cæsar is the most remarkable man of this period. He combined in one the threefold character of politician, writer, and warrior. Unfortunately, he was corrupt with the times.

This hero was born, 100 B.C. Proscribed, when a youth, by Sylla, he returned to Rome on the death of that dictator. Named prætor, 61 B.C., he was sent to Spain, and there made several conquests. On his return he was made consul. Then was formed.

59 B.C., the first triumvirate—composed of Crassus, Pompey, and Cæsar. The death of Crassus, conquered by Orodes, king of Parthia, was, as it were, the signal of the rivalry between Cæsar and Pompey.

Battle of Pharsalia, 48 B.C.—Cæsar, who had just conquered a part of Gaul, marched on Rome, and passed the Rubicon—a river which it was forbidden to any consul to go beyond—at the head of the legions. The two rivals decided their dispute at Pharsalia, in Thessalia. Pompey was vanquished. In 48, Cæsar, victorious, was seen, as it were, simultaneously, in Egypt, Asia, Mauritania. Conqueror everywhere, he was recognised, at Rome, master of the whole world.

Possessor, at last, of absolute power, Cæsar used it only for good. He pardoned the greatest of his enemies, and embellished Rome. But the republicans, who accused him of wishing to be king, killed him in the midst of the senate, March 15th, 44 B.C. Among the principal conspirators were Brutus and Cassius.

However, at the news of the death of Cæsar, the people, excited by Marcus Antonius, set up cries of hatred and revenge against the conspirators, who, obliged to take flight, retired to the East. Notwithstanding, the republican party—aristocratic republic—reinforced itself. Brutus and Cassius, at the head of the legions, menaced Italy.

Second Triumvirate.—It was then that Octavius, nephew and heir to Cæsar, Marcus Antonius, and Lepidus, master of the cavalry, united, and agreed to divide the supreme power for five years. This was the second triumvirate. Before beginning the war, the triumviri agreed that each should immolate his enemies.

Cicero, the greatest Roman orator, died, assassinated, at the age of 64, 43 B.C. His head and hands were brought to Marcus Antonius, who ordered them to be publicly exposed.

Battle of Philippi.—**Roman Empire, 29 B.C.**—At last the army of the triumviri and that of the republic met at Philippi, on the frontier of Macedonia. The triumvirate gained the victory. Brutus and Cassius committed suicide. Antonius and Octavius, after destroying Lepidus, took up arms against each other, and gave battle at Actium, 31 B.C. Octavius was conqueror; Egypt was reduced to a Roman province; Cleopatra, last queen of Egypt, died by allowing herself to be stung by an asp.

Octavius remained, under the title of Emperor Augustus Cæsar (29), sole master of the empire, comprehending the whole of the known world, which enjoyed peace under his rule. Jesus Christ, our Saviour, then came into the world, 4004 after the Creation.

Great men in the Arts and Sciences.—This century of Cæsar Augustus is also that of the orators Cicero and Hortensius ; of the poets Virgil, Horace, Ovid ; of the historians Sallust, Titus Livy, Cornelius Nepos, Diodorus of Sicily, and many other great genii, whose masterpieces could alone compensate us for all the cruelties committed through ambition.

CHRISTIAN ERA.

1st CENTURY A.D.

Roman Empire.

Augustus, Tiberius, Caligula, Claudius, Nero, Roman emperors.—When Jesus Christ came to accomplish his divine mission, the world then known was for the most part under the Roman dominion. The Parthians alone remained independent beside the empire of the Cæsars.

We have seen Octavius, on his return to Rome after his expedition into Egypt, receive the title of emperor and Augustus; and establish, under another name, monarchical government, or absolute power, 29 B.C. Then everything depended on the will of the sovereign, and very little on institutions.

With the exception of a few conspiracies,—among others that of Cinna, and the battle of Teutoburgerwald, in which Varus lost three legions,—the policy and arms of Augustus were nearly always prosperous. After a reign of about forty-four years, Augustus died at Nola, at the age of 73, in the year 14 of the Christian era. He owed his successes and glory, in a great measure, to the military and political talents of Agrippa, and the wisdom of his minister Mæcenas, enlightened protector of artists and learned men.

Tiberius, second Roman emperor, was son of Tiberius Nero and Livia, who, having divorced her husband, married Augustus. While young, Tiberius distinguished himself in several wars against the Germans; but scarcely was he on the throne, than he gave way to his defiant and sanguinary disposition. Tiberius died 37 A.D. at the age of 69, smothered by Macro, *prefect* of the *Pretorium*. It was during the reign of this infamous emperor that our Blessed Saviour was crucified (33).

Caligula was son of Germanicus, nephew of Tiberius. It was that madman who placed his horse among the number of the

consuls. Tiberius had said of him, "I leave to the people of Rome a serpent to devour them, and to the world a phaeton to set it in flames." He was murdered by Chereas.

Claudius was brother to Germanicus; he married Messalina, by whom he had the infamous Britannicus; and his second wife, Agrippina, his niece, was the mother of Nero.

Nero was son of Agrippina, daughter of Germanicus. In spite of his excesses, his folly and cruelty of every description, he was nevertheless regretted by a corrupt people, who asked nought of their kings but a little gold and the games of the circus. Galba raised the standard of revolt, and the senate declared Nero to be an enemy to the public. Thus proscribed, he caused a sword to be thrust into his throat by a freed-man. With Nero ended the Cæsars.

Galba, Otho, Vitellius, Vespasian, Titus, Domitian, Nerva, Trajan.—Galba was the first emperor elected. His severity soon rendered him odious to the people. Otho took advantage of that severity, and had himself proclaimed in his place. But he discovered that the legions had raised to the empire Vitellius, so sadly celebrated for his intemperance. Vitellius was massacred, and was succeeded by the severe Vespasian, in whose reign his son Titus destroyed Jerusalem, in the year 70. Titus was an admirable emperor, and Domitian, his brother, an infamous one. Nerva came after Domitian only to abolish the crime of high-treason, to punish the informers, and to call Trajan to the purple. Trajan, born at Seville, was the first emperor of foreign origin. In his reign the empire was at the highest degree of power, and remained thus until Marcus Aurelius.

The Church in the 1st Century.—Promulgation of the Gospel.

On the day of Pentecost (33 A.D.) began the promulgation of the Gospel.

The religion of Christ was soon spread by his disciples.

First Persecution, under Nero.—St. Peter and St. Paul were confined in the prison of Mamertina, at the foot of the Capitol, and put to death (68).

Second Persecution, under Domitian.—St. John was martyred, but escaped death. He died at Ephesus, at the age of one hundred. "Little children, love one another,"—such was his sole exhortation towards the close of his life.

The Ancient Britons.

The ancient Britons were of the Celtic race, and came from Gaul. They were brave and warlike. Julius Caesar defeated the Britons, 55 and 54 B.C., but did not conquer their country.

Roman Conquest.

Claudius, emperor of Rome, sent Aulus Plautius to conquer Britain, A.D. 43, and also came himself. Octavius took command A.D. 50, and made Caractacus prisoner.

2ND CENTURY A.D.

Roman Empire.

Trajan, Adrian, Marcus Aurelius, Roman emperors.—Trajan, placed on the throne 98, died 117. This great and noble prince had no other title to the empire than his own merit. "Such as I wished that emperors should do to me when I was but a simple individual, so will I do to individuals now that I am emperor."

Pliny the younger, Juvenal, and Plutarch lived in his reign.

Adrian, 117, was cousin, countryman, and adopted son of Trajan. Either from jealousy or necessity, Adrian abandoned a great part of the conquests of Trajan. Great administrator and friend of the arts, which he revived. Adrian visited all the celebrated places of his empire, and rendered his journey remarkable by the foundations of towns and bridges, and the greater number of Roman roads. Antoninus had been adopted by Adrian. Master of the empire, he displayed the talents of a statesman, of a philosopher, and a great king. He was singularly loved by his subjects. He used to say to the empress, "Our property is no longer private, now that we have attained the empire."

Marcus Aurelius, the philosopher, was adopted by Antoninus on account of his talents and virtues. This wise emperor, who loved peace, had to sustain many wars, and died in the midst of a tumult of his armies, a model of all virtue. Marcus Aurelius has left a work, entitled "To myself." It is a monument of wisdom, spirit, and purity of heart.

Commodus, Pertinax, Didius, Septimus Severus.—Marcus Aurelius left the title of emperor to his son, Commodus, but he did not leave him his talents and virtues. After having defiled himself by every crime, Commodus perished, poisoned by a woman named Marcia. With this miserable emperor, who was as cruel as Tiberius, as foolish as Caligula, commenced the veritable decadence of the empire.

Pertinax, proclaimed emperor by the Pretorian Guard, was strangled three months after, and left the empire to Sulpician,

his father-in-law. Didius Julianus bought the crown from the soldiers, and took the place of Sulpician ; he was killed shortly after. The legions of Gaul named Septimus Severus ; those of Syria, Niger ; those of Great Britain, Albin ; but Severus, more fortunate than his rivals, became master of Rome.

Caledonia. Scotland.

Towards the year 140, Tremor, ancestor of Fingal, made himself king of the north of Scotland, by uniting all the clans of Morven. He destroyed the religion of the Druids and that of Odin, and only preserved of the Scandinavian rites, those of the Bards, to whom the country owes its annals.

The Church in the 2nd Century.

The reigns of Commodus, Pertinax, and Julianus were rendered brilliant by the eloquence of the first fathers of the Church. Among the Greek fathers is cited St. Cimon, of Alexandria ; among the Latin fathers, Tertullian. St. Irenus tells us that the Gospel was already very widely spread, and speaks of the churches of Germany, Gaul, Spain, the East, Egypt, and Libya, enlightened by the same faith as they were by the same sun.

He names the twelve bishops of Rome, who succeeded each other, from St. Peter to Eleuther. He affirmed that he had known Polycarpus, had conversed with several disciples who had seen the Lord on earth. This is one of the most striking testimonies of tradition.

The third persecution took place 106, under Trajan, St. Ignatius martyr ; the fourth in 166, under Marcus Aurelius. The arts and letters shone brilliantly during the reign of Trajan, Adrian, Antoninus, and Marcus Aurelius. This is the second century of Latin literature, in which must be comprehended that which made the expiring genius of Greece now in subjection to the Romans.

Then flourished Tacitus, who died 130 ; the two Plinys, Suetonius, Florus, Galian, Sextus Empiricus, Plutarch, Ptolemy, Arian, Pausanias, Appian ; Marcus Aurelius, and Epictetus, the one emperor, the other slave ; and, last of all, Lucian, who in his writings opposed the whims, prejudices, and vices of his contemporaries.

3RD CENTURY A.D.

Roman Empire.

Caracalla and Geta, Macrinus, Heliogabalus, Alexander Severus, Roman emperors, 217.—Caracalla and Geta, sons of Severus, succeeded him. Caracalla killed Geta, and Macrinus assassinated Caracalla, and remained on the throne but 14 months (218). The army took the empire from him, as easily as it had conferred it on him, and proclaimed a Syrian, Heliogabalus (218), a monster of a new sort, (an extravagant epicure), 222.

Alexander Severus, cousin of Heliogabalus, succeeded, helped by the counsels of his mother ; if he had reigned longer he might have re-established the empire.

Maximin, Gordian I., Gordian II., Maximus and Balbin, Gordian III., Philip the Arab.—Maximin was the murderer of Alexander Severus ; he had the same fate as his victim. He was eight feet high ; his strength was prodigious. This tyrant, after many combats, was massacred with his son.

Two emperors of the name of Gordian were proclaimed, and disappeared in the reign of Maximin.

Every good was anticipated in the wisdom of Macrinus and Balbin, but both were assassinated after a reign of two months (238).

Gordian III. died, poisoned by Philip the Arab, who became emperor, and died in a combat.

First great invasion of the Barbarians, Decius, Gallus, Emilian.—249, Décius. He was governor of Messene, for Philip the Arab, when his soldiers proclaimed him emperor. He killed Philip with his own hand at the battle of Verona.

Décius, a remarkable prince, who saw the commencement of the first great invasion of the Barbarians, also armed against the Christians. In his reign there took place a horrible persecution.

251, Gallus.—He concluded a shameful treaty with the Goths. Valerian, son of Gallus, was associated to the empire by his father, whom he massacred.

253, Emilian.—Four months after his nomination, he was also massacred by his soldiers.

Valerian, Gallian, the Thirty Tyrants, Claudius II.—253, Valerian. He died captive of the king of Persia, Sapor, who caused him to be flayed alive. His skin, dyed red, tanned and stuffed with straw, was hung from the roof of one of the Persian temples.

260, Gallian, son of Valerian, cared for nothing but his own pleasure; orator and poet. Gallian was indifferent to all, even to the welfare of his empire.

261, The Thirty Tyrants. — Meanwhile the empire had become a prey to divers usurpations. Thirty tyrants, or more correctly nineteen, caused themselves to be proclaimed emperors. Among them must be mentioned Macrianus, an artful old man; Odenatus, who repulsed Sapor, king of Persia; the celebrated Zenobia, queen of Palmyra, and wife of Odenatus; Balista and Ingenuns, illustrious captains; Calpurnius Piso, to whom was given the name of Man: Victoria, the Zenobia of the Gauls, &c. It may as well be mentioned that the name of tyrant has not in this instance the meaning now attributed to it; it simply meant usurper.

268, Claudius II.—He exterminated an army of the Goths, and died of the plague at Sirmium.

Aurelianus, Claudius Tacitus, Probus.—270, Aurelianus, conqueror of Zenobia, queen of Palmyra. Palmyra, built by Solomon in Arabia, became in the 2nd century a Roman province. Odenatus, one of its kings, on whom the emperor Gallia had conferred the title of Emperor of the East, had conquered Sapor, son and successor to Artaxerxes, and was on the point of possessing himself of the kingdom of Persia, when he was assassinated. Zenobia, his wife, succeeded him; instead of striking the last blow to the power of the Persians, she made peace with them to fight against the Romans. Palmyra succumbed in this struggle, conquered by Aurelianus, who stained his triumph with blood by the death of the orator Longinus. The queen, dressed in rich garments, adorned the triumph of her conqueror. Towards the close of his reign, Aurelianus persecuted the Christians.

Claudius Tacitus, and Florian.—Claudius Tacitus gave up to the senate a part of his rights; he descended from the historian Tacitus. His brother made himself master of the empire, but died two months after.

Britain a Roman Province.

The Romans built walls to prevent the inroads of the Picts and Scots.

Roman Britain was divided into five provinces, and governed by a prefect.

St. Alban put to death, A.D. 304, for refusing to renounce Christianity.

270. Probus was elected by the army and the senate. He caused the vine to be planted in Gaul: the Prætorians murdered him.

Carus, Carinus and Numerian, Diocletian.—282, Carus. This valiant prince avenged his predecessor, and repressed the Barbarians; he died thunderstruck.

283, Carinus and Numerian.—Numerian was assassinated by Aper, prefect of the Prætorium, and Carinus was killed in a combat.

284, Diocletian.—In 286, he associated with himself Maximianus. Diocletian was the son of a clerk, and began by being a soldier of the ranks. Besides Maximianus, whom he named Augustus, Diocletian also joined himself to other colleagues, whom he named Cæsars, a title equivalent to “presumptive heir to the empire;” these were Constance, Chlorus, and Galerius.

The Church.—Persecutions in the 3rd Century.

The fifth persecution took place in 202, under Severus. Leonidas, father of Origen, was one of its martyrs.

The sixth dates from 235, under Maximianus. This one fell principally on the bishops and priests.

The seventh dates from 250, under Decius, the pope; St. Fabian, St. Alexander, St. Babylas, were its principal martyrs.

The eighth dates from 258, under Valerian: it was during this persecution that St. Laurence perished on a gridiron.

The ninth dates from 275, under Aurelianus; St. Denis the martyr.

Great Men of the Arts and Sciences.

Ulpian and Platus, jurisconsults ; Ossian, poet ; Dion Cassius, historian ; Catherine, a learned woman. Tertullian, Origen, St. Gregory, Thaumaturgus, Minutius, defended the Christian religion. Origen, son of a martyred father, drew to his Christian school many pagan philosophers.

4TH CENTURY A.D.

Roman Empire.

Abdication of Diocletian and Maximian.—Diocletian abdicated in favor of Galerius, and Maximian in favor of Constance; and shortly after four emperors appear at the same time—Constantine the Great, Maximian, Licinius, and Maxentius. Constantine became a Christian in 312, and in the same year gained the famous battle in which his rival, Maxentius, lost his empire and life. He reigned only one year.

325. This is the date of the Council of Nice, in which the majority of the bishops condemned the heresy of Arius.

Towards the end of his life, Constantine built Constantinople on the ruins of Byzantium.

At the death of Constantine the empire was divided between his three sons—Constantine the younger, Constantius, and Constant, 337.

Constantine the younger, Constantius, and Constant.—Constantine the younger attacked his brother Constant; he was killed while fighting. Maxentius usurped the purple shortly after, and put Constant to death. Constantius, to avenge his brother, attacked and defeated Maxentius.

Constantius reigned alone. He visited Rome, of which he knew nothing before, and remained there, enchanted by its magnificence.

Constantius, jealous of the victories of Julian, nephew of Constantine, in Germany, wished to take the army from him. Julian was proclaimed emperor at Paris, and Constantius died Oct. 3rd, 361, in Cilicia.

361. Julian the Apostate, Jovian, Valentinian, Valens, Gratian, and Valentinian II. Julian, sole master of the empire, abjured Christianity, from whence his name of Apostate. He publicly professed the heathen religion, and re-opened the temples.

363. Jovian, distinguished prince, merely appeared on the throne. His wife, coming to meet him to share his throne, on her way met his funeral.

364. **Valentinian and Valens.** The soldiers gave the empire to Valentinian, who reserved for himself the West, and gave the East to Valens, his brother. Valentinian established his court at Milan ; Valens at Constantinople.

Valentinian was a severe prince, but a friend of justice. His son, Gratian, succeeded him in 376, and associated with himself his young brother, Valentinian II.

Meanwhile Valens had admitted into his empire the Goths, and had given them Mesia. The avidity of the imperial representatives having reduced these people to despair, they rose in arms, and beat the generals of the empire. Valens himself was defeated in person, at Adrianople, and perished, burnt, with all his suite, in a cottage where he had taken refuge. In 378, Gratian succeeded Valens in the East.

Theodosius the Great.—Maximus was proclaimed in Great Britain ; and Gratian had associated Theodosius to the empire. Gratian was killed in fighting against Maximus. The church and empire deplored the death of such a good prince.

Maximus undertook to deprive Valentinian of his estates. He passed the Alps and took Milan. The intrepid Ambrosius dared boldly to face this tyrant, and reproach him for his revolt and regicide. Theodosius, whom Valentinian had called to his help, triumphed over Maximus, who was made prisoner and put to death (388). He triumphed over Eugenius, another usurper. Theodosius died in peace, more illustrious for his faith than for his victories.

395. **Definite division of the Empire.**—Theodosius was only for a short time master of the empire, to divide it between his two sons, Honorius and Arcadius. The former inherited the West, and the latter the East.

The Church.

The tenth persecution.—The tenth persecution took place under Diocletian. It was the most cruel of all. A whole legion composed of Christians suffered death rather than renounce the faith.

The Council of Nice dates from 325.

Great Men of the Arts and Sciences.

395. Deaths of Onsonius, Latin poet; 415, Hypatia, a learned woman; 397, St. Ambrosius, doctor of the Church; Symmachus, Roman statesman; Diophantus, of Alexandria, inventor of Algebra; 430, Eutropius, Latin poet; 333, Arius, heretic.

5TH CENTURY A.D.

Part the First.

Continuation of the reign of Honorius and Arcadius.—In the 5th century, Barbarians, from *Sarmatia* or *Scythia*, after dreadful bloodshed, triumphed over the Roman Legions. They destroyed the Empire of the West, and founded new states upon its ruins.

At the beginning of this century, the two sons of Theodosius the Great still governed the empire. The two empires were thus divided: Empire of the West—Gaul, Germany, Spain, Great Britain, Carthage, Africa; Empire of the East—Greece, Western Asia, Egypt. Alaric, at the head of the Goths, penetrated into Italy; but was vanquished and made prisoner by Stilicho, general of Honorius.

The emperor went to Rome to celebrate his triumph, and it was during the games arranged for this occasion that the monk *Telemachus* died, a victim to his own kindness.

Death of Stilicho.—Two years after, *Radagaisus*, chief of the *Alani* and *Suaves*, was also conquered and made prisoner by Stilicho. But the hero who had just saved Rome was accused of aspiring to the reins of government. The base emperor signed his death-warrant (408), and Stilicho was beheaded before the legions whom he had so often led to victory.

Siege of Rome by Alaric, 408.—Stilicho had withstood the Barbarians; the defence was now broken. Alaric came and laid siege to Rome. The Romans, in great consternation, sent an embassy to the king of the Goths, and the latter consented to withdraw, on condition that Rome gave up all the gold and silver she contained.

Siege and Capture of Rome, 410.—Alaric had proclaimed *Attila* emperor, but soon after deposed him, and began fresh negotiations with Honorius. While these negotiations were taking place, a detachment of his troops was surprised and cut to pieces. Alaric, believing himself betrayed, broke up the

conference, and rushed to lay siege to Rome. The everlasting city was taken and pillaged. Shortly after this Alaric died.

Ataulphus and Placidus, 415.—Ataulphus, son-in-law of Alaric, was his successor. He married the captive sister of Honorius.

Conquered by Constantius, a Roman general, he retired into Spain, where he died assassinated. His widow returned to Rome, where she married Constantius, who was proclaimed emperor, and died shortly after, leaving two children, Valentinian and Honoria.

Honorius died in 423. A secretary of state, named John, took possession of the Western Empire.

Valentinian III. Fall of the Western Empire.—Valentinian III., son of Constantine and Placidus, was recognised emperor. John was driven away by Ætius and Boniface, Roman generals. Placidus governed as regent.

It was during the reign of Valentinian III. that the too famous Attila was defeated, on the plains of Chalons, by Ætius, 451. Valentinian was the murderer of Ætius. The base emperor was shortly after destroyed by Maximus, who came to offer himself in marriage to the widow of his victim. The empress called the Vandals to her aid, and Genseric, at the head of these barbarians, laid siege to Rome, took it, and carried off the treasures of the city of Scipio to the city of Hannibal (Carthage). Maximus, killed during the siege of Rome, was succeeded by Avitus (455, 456). Then the audacious Count of Ricimer was elected emperor. Majorian was a remarkable prince, but reigned only a short time; then came Sylvius Severus, a man of no import. *Anthemius*, whose daughter Ricimer married. Olybrius was then sent by the emperor of the West. Glycerius succeeded Olybrius, and Julius Nepos succeeded Olybrius. At last Odoacer, conqueror of Julius Nepos, refused the title of emperor of the West, and caused himself to be proclaimed king of Italy, 476. It was then that the Senate sent ambassadors to Constantinople, to put the power into the hands of Zeno, regent of the West. Zeno received the ambassadors severely, and told them they had an emperor, whom the Senate should obey. One of the ambassadors replied, "There is an emperor, but no longer an empire."

With the fall of the Western Empire ends Ancient History, and, chronologically speaking, commences that period called the

Middle Ages. It must not be forgotten that the Middle Ages lie between two great events ; the Fall of the Western, 476, and the Fall of the Eastern Empire, 1453.

The Saxons in Britain.

Honorius recalled the Romans from Britain, A.D. 410.

Hengist and Horsa helped the Britons to drive back the Picts and Scots, 449.

The Saxons conquered Britain, and founded the Saxon Hepharchy, from 449 to 586.

HISTORY OF THE MIDDLE AGES.

FROM 476 TO 1453.

5TH CENTURY A.D.

Part the Second.

Gaul.

Gaul was that country between the Atlantic Ocean, the Pyrenees, the Mediterranean, the Alps, and the Rhine. It also comprehended, besides actual France, a part of the Sardinian States and Switzerland, the portion of the Grand Duchy south of the Rhine which is on the left side of this river, and the greater part of the Netherlands. The Gauls, a warlike people, were ruled by a great number of petty kings, who shared the territory. But the veritable sovereigns of Gaul were for a long time the Druids, priests justly famous in the history of these people. The darkest forests served them for temples, and they often sacrificed human beings to the terrible God of War—(see *Hea. Myth.*)—most revered by the Gauls.

Fifty-eight years before Christ, Julius Cæsar, the greatest Roman general, avenged the conflagration of Rome by making the conquest of Gaul. After eight years' furious resistance, after taking eight hundred cities, and the massacre and captivity of two million Gauls, Gaul was reduced to a Roman province, and remained so until the fall of the Empire of the West, an event of which we have already spoken.

The Franks, Burgundians, and Visigoths in Gaul.—In the first part of the 5th century we witnessed the triumph of the Barbarians, and the fall of the Western Empire. But during this

first period, hordes from Germany, Sarmatia, or Scythia, destroyed much more than they established. Alaric, Radagaisus, and Attila did nought but destroy ; after them came other Barbarians, whose mission it was to found new states on the ruins of the Empire of the West.

Of all the Barbarians who passed over Gaul, only two classes had remained on its territory,—the Burgundians in the east, and the Visigoths in the south, when the Franks came and settled in the north.

Kingdom of the Franks.

420. Pharamond, whom most historians call first king of the Franks, was son of Marcomir, who doubtless was chief of the Salic Franks when the latter entered Gaul.

Pharamond certainly was only the chief of a tribe—that of the Salic Franks ; the other tribes also each had their own chief.

428. Clodion, according to commonly received opinion, succeeded Pharamond, 428. He was surnamed long-haired, because he only permitted freed-men to wear it.

448. Merovee succeeded Clodion, of whom he was no doubt not the son. The reign of Merovee is celebrated by the defeat of the terrible Attila, king of the Huns. This barbarous chief, “scourge of God,” as he called himself, had just subdued Theodosius II., and was going on towards the West, when he was defeated on the plains of Chalons by the noble Ætius, who had united beneath the Roman banners the Franks, Visigoths, and Burgundians.

453. Childeric was driven away by the Franks in the first year of his reign ; he returned eight years after, and was reinstated on the promise of better conduct.

481. Clovis, son of Childeric, is considered as the veritable founder of the monarchy of the Franks. He was sixteen when he succeeded his father. In 486 he gained the battle of Soissons, over Syagrius, a Roman general. From that time the domination of the Romans in Gaul was annihilated. After the conquest of Soissons, Clovis marched to Chalons and Troyes ; but he spared Rheims, for the sake of Saint Remi, to whom he wil-

lingly listened, and for love of whom he abstained from much outrage.

493-96. Marriage of Clovis. Battle of Tolbiac. Conversion of Clovis.—Only one Christian princess existed among the Gauls. At the moment Clovis expected to be vanquished at the battle of Tolbiac, he vowed to worship the God of Clotilda if he carried off the victory. He was victor, and, faithful to his oath, was baptised at Rheims, and with him were converted the principal Frank lords. "Curb thy head, proud Sicambre," said St. Remi to Clovis; "adore that which thou hast burnt, and burn that which thou hast adored."

Towards 500, Clovis began a war against the Burgundians, which he left his sons to terminate. At the end of the 5th century Gaul was still governed in the north by the Franks, in the centre by the Burgundians, already tributary to the Franks, and in the south by the Visigoths.

Italy.

Empire of the Visigoths.—The domination of the king of the Heruli, Odoacer, in Italy, was of short duration. Theodoric, king of the Ostrogoths, or Goths of the East, was his conqueror, and founded, 495, an empire, which under him was powerful.

Spain.

Ataulphus, husband of Placidia, went from the south of Gaul into Italy. Vallia, his second successor, is regarded as the founder of the dominion of the Visigoths in Spain.

Theodoric, his successor, lost his life on the Catalonic plains (ancient province of Spain), while fighting against Attila.

Empire of the East.

At the time of the fall of the Western Empire, the sovereigns of Constantinople still governed Greece, Thracia, a part of Illyria, Asia Minor, Syria, and Egypt.

The Church in the 5th Century.

At this time barbarity gave to society a spirit of independence and personal dignity, which had been destroyed by despotism and corruption of manners. But if the Barbarians had conquered the Western Empire, the organised Church, with its institutions, its magistrates, its power, subdued this barbarity, and became the tie, the means, the principle of civilisation between the Roman and barbarous world.

Among the popes of this century we must not forget St. Leo the Great (440, 461). Simplicius (468, 482), was pope at the time of the fall of the Western Empire.

Great men who died in this Century.

407, Death of St. Chrysostom; 430, St. Augustin, Leo (pope); Priscus, historian; St. Jerome; Zosimus, historian; Honorat, bishop; 450, Orosius, historian; Apollinaris, bishop of Clermont.

6TH CENTURY A.D.

Kingdom of the Franks.

Battle of Vouilly—Death of Clovis—507.—Clovis marched against the Visigoths, who occupied the south of Gaul, and won the famous battle of Vouilly; he killed Alaric with his own hand. But instead of organizing his conquest, he was content to carry off the rich booty, which proves, like many other events, that the Barbarians domineered over rather than governed the people they conquered. Clovis died 511. He was artful and ambitious, but not without genius, noble, handsome, valiant, impetuous, and the veritable founder of the kingdom of the Franks.

Saint Genevieve, patron Saint of Paris, died the same year as Clovis. The shepherdess of Gaul and the king of the Franks were buried in the same church.

The four sons of Clovis — Childebert, Clotaire, Clodomir, Thierry (511).—After the death of Clovis, his four sons shared the kingdom. Childebert was king of Paris, Clotaire of Soissons, Clodomir of Orleans, and Theodoric or Thierry of Austrasia, of which Metz was the capital. It must be remarked that the royalty of the Franks was hereditary and elective; elective by right, and hereditary in fact.

Which of the kings' companions could compete with the courage, power, or riches of either of the sons of Clovis?

Conquests of the sons of Clovis; Massacre of the Children of Clodomir.—Burgundy, which Clovis had left independent, was subdued after two wars, carried on by three of the sons of Clotilda, 523-533.

Clodomir, though conqueror, was killed in a battle. He left three sons—two were massacred by their uncles; the third, Clodwald, was saved in an unknown way, and retired to a hermitage in the environs of Paris, where he renounced the goods of this world, and dedicated himself to God. From this name, corrupted, the hermitage was called St. Cloud.

Clotaire I., sole king, 558.

Thierry, king of Austrasia, died in 542. Theobert, who suc-

ceeded him, had for heir Theodebald, who died without children. Clotaire I., king of Soissons, married his widow; and after the death of Childebert, king of Paris, Clotaire I. became sole monarch of the Frank kingdom. His son Chrammus having revolted against him, he pitilessly condemned him, his wife, and children to be put to death. "Clotaire I.," said St. Gregory of Tours, "personifies the extreme cruelty of the savage, and the sanguinary ways of the brute beast, who mangles his prey and then sleeps." In 562 this barbarian died, exclaiming, "How great is he (death) who thus causes the death of the greatest kings of the earth." His four sons, Caribert, Sigebert, Contran, and Chilperic, succeeded him, and, like the sons of Clovis, shared the kingdom.

Austrasia, Neustria.—The sons of Clotaire: Caribert, Chilperic, Gondebald, Sigebert.—At this time Gaul, conquered by the Franks, was divided into Neustria and Austrasia. The Salio Franks, or Neustrians, more mixed up with the Roman civilization, had submitted to its influence. Burgundy formed a country apart, but was more Neustrian than Austrasian.

Beginning of the struggle between Austrasia and Neustria.—Sigebert, king of Austrasia, married Brunehaut, or rather Brinhilda (the brown girl), younger daughter of Athanagildus, king of the Visigoths. In 568, Chilperic, having repudiated Andoveri, married Galswinthe, eldest sister of Brunehaut. A few months after her marriage, the unfortunate Galswinthe was found dead in her bed. Chilperic mourned the trespass of which he was the author, and a few days after married his accomplice Fredegonde, who made him her tool, and captivated him by her attractions and artifices.

Excited by Brunehaut, who wished to avenge the death of her sister, Sigebert took possession of all the estates of his brother. But Fredegonde assassinated him (575).

From that day the crimes of this woman multiplied: the son of her husband was killed; Chilperic himself was strangled (584); and she reigned until 597, in the name of her own son, Clotaire II.

Gontram, king of Burgundy, died 593, and left his kingdom to Childebert II., king of Austrasia.

Childebert II. died 596, and left two sons, Thierry II. and Childebert. Thierry killed his brother. He died himself shortly after, and left two sons, who reigned under the guardianship of

their great-grandmother, Brunehaut, whose chief thought was to organize the monarchical government. We shall speak of this celebrated woman in the 7th century.

587. Treaty of Andelot.

Spain—Italy.

Spain.—The Visigoths, driven from the south of Gaul, predominated over all Spain. Brinhilda and Galswinthe were daughters of Athanagildus, king of the Visigoths.

Italy.—The empire founded by Theodoric the Great, 495, was conquered in 553 by Narsis, general of the East. In 568 the Lombardians went into Italy and founded a kingdom, which Charlemagne was destined to destroy at the close of the 8th century. Alboin, first king of Lombardy, was assassinated by his wife, Rosamond.

Empire of the East.

The Empire of the East was in the 6th century at the height of its power. Justinian, nephew of Justin, succeeded him in 527. His reign was made famous by the publication of a code of laws known by the name of the Justinian Code, or Roman Rights.

Belisarius, the cleverest general of this century, destroyed in Africa the kingdom of the Vandals, governed by Gelimer. This deliverer of the Empire was rewarded with ingratitude, and died of grief and misery.

The Church.

Among the Popes of the 6th century must be mentioned St. Gregory the Great, 590. Under his pontificate the Angles and Saxons were converted to Christianity. St. Gregory charged a monk of the name of Augustine with this mission, who, in 595, baptized Ethelbert, king of Kent, and laid at Canterbury the foundation of the Church of England.

Monasteries.—In 529, St. Benedict founded on Mount Cassin

the famous order of Benedictines, whose rules became the general law of all monasteries. At this time a part of Europe was still covered with forests ; sovereigns gave to the founders of monasteries as much of that forest land as they could cultivate, and if ultimately these brotherhoods became rich, they owed their riches to hard labour.

Mezerai says that, at the beginning of the 7th century, there were thirty-five monasteries, and as many convents for women. In those barbarous times, monasteries were sacred, and enjoyed a certain tranquillity in the midst of the universal turmoil. Thanks to this calm, men of learning were enabled to give themselves up to study, and thus to preserve the chain of tradition.

Britain.

Christianity established among the Saxons by Augustine and his forty monks, 597.

Great Men who died in this Century.

552, Jornandes, a Goth historian ; 595, Gregory of Tours, a Frank historian ; 543, St. Benedict, a monk ; 540, Denys the Little (abbot) ; 565, Justinian ; 525, Boace, Latin poet ; 520, Procopus, Greek historian ; 533, St. Remi, archbishop of Rheims. Towards 547, Tribonian, jurisconsult.

7TH CENTURY A.D.

Kingdom of the Franks.

613.—Execution of Brunehaut.—The widow of Sigebert sustained for a long while a struggle against the nobles of Austrasia. The object of her life was to establish a monarchy on the model of the Roman Empire. For the realization of this vast project, she committed more than one crime, without having her efforts crowned with success. On the eve of a battle she was betrayed, and given into the hands of Clotaire II., king of Neustria. Brunehaut, daughter, sister, aunt, niece, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother of a great number of kings, was, by order of Clotaire II., tied by one arm and one leg to an ungovernable horse, which in time tore her to pieces. Brunehaut was 94 years old. Her age commanded respect, and ought to have inspired pity.

Power of the Mayors of the Palace.

The victory of Clotaire II. was destined to influence all his race. He reigned over the whole of the Frank nations, but Warnakher was made Mayor of the Palace, after receiving from the king the oath that he should never be degraded from his high office. In Austrasia, Radon occupied the same charge. Godoland governed Neustria. The treaty of Andelot, in 587, between Gontran, Childebert II., Brunehaut, and the Austrasian nobles, guaranteed to each noble the government during his lifetime of the dominion allotted to him.

628. Dagobert.—History reproaches Dagobert, son of Clotaire II., with several crimes. However, the reign of this king, whose name signifies "bright as the day," was not without some glory. He was the founder of the Abbey of St. Denis, in the vaults of which the mortal remains of the kings of France were laid.

638. Clovis II. and Sigbert II., sons of Dagobert.—Ega and Pepin de Landen were mayors of the Palace. Pepin de Landen,

called the Elder, rendered himself illustrious by his virtues, gave his daughter Begga in marriage to one of the principal officers of Sigbert, and from this union issued Pepin D'Heristal. Sigbert II. died 556, leaving one child under age, Dagobert II. Grimvold, son of Pepin Heristal, shut this child up in a monastery, and dared to place his own son on the throne; but the Franks revolted, and delivered up these two usurpers to Clovis, who ordered them to be put to death.

Clovis II., who died young, had married Bathilda, a princess as beautiful as she was virtuous, and who was the mother of Clotaire III., king in 658; Childeric II., 670; and of Thierry III., 673; whose reigns were disturbed by the quarrels of the two mayors of the Palace, Ebroïn and St. Leger.

Battle of Testri, 687.—Fainéants Kings.—Pepin of Heristal, Austrasian chief, gained, in 687, over Thierry I., king of Paris, the famous battle of Testri, and took the title of Mayor of Neustria and Austrasia.

From that period began a series of kings whom history has sullied with the name of Indolent.

Pepin of Heristal governed under three of these kings. Royalty was not entirely suppressed, but the dukes of the Franks only retained a king so as to be able to shew here and there to the assembled people a prince descended from Clovis.

690, Clovis III., son of Thierry I. or III., succeeded. 695, Childebart II.

Spain.—Italy.

While Austrasia triumphed over Neustria, and the Merovingian Royalty was overrun by high aristocracy, Spain continued to be governed by the Visigoths. Italy was still divided between the Lombardians and the Emperors of the East. Constant II., Emperor of the East (642), despairing of ever driving away the Lombardians, ravaged the country he could not defend; more cruel than the barbarians, he returned to Rome, only to pillage its treasures.

Eastern Empire—Constantinople.

The infamous Phocas, murderer of Maurice, succeeded him, 602. Heraclius, proclaimed by the army of Africa (610), marched against Phocas, took him prisoner, and condemned him to death. The provinces of the empire were at this period invaded and desolated by Chosroes II., king of Persia; but, by an admirable turn of fortune, Heraclius became five times victor, invaded Persia, sacrificed his enemy, and brought back to Constantinople the Holy Cross in triumph. But from then ensued a new period of disasters. In 638, Syria was conquered by the Arabs, and with his successors, Heracleonas and Constant II., began the downfall of the empire.

Empire of the Arabs.

Mahomet was the founder of a new religion, Mahometism; of a new civilization, based upon a material force; of a new empire,—that of the Arabs. An orphan, without fortune, he obtained the position of a camel-driver. He travelled in Syria, where his wit gained the affection of a rich widow named Kadicha, who became his wife. It was then that he gave himself up to meditations, and conceived the project of a new belief. Ali, his cousin, and Abou-Bekr, his friend, believed in him,—Abou-Bekr converted to this new worship Othenan, son of Assan. The hasty Omar also ranked himself among his proselytes, and as their number augmented daily, the Koreichites directed such persecutions against Mahomet as obliged him to flee to Medina, 622.

This year was the first of Hegira, or Flight, name given to the Mussulman Era. Abou-Bekr, successor of Mahomet, 632, published the Koran, the only written law of the Mussulmen,—took the title of Caliph,—and united the spiritual to the temporal power. Omar, his successor, made numerous conquests. Othenan, successor of Omar, 644, was pious and humane. He put an end to the second Persian Empire.

Great Men of the 7th Century.

Agathias, Greek historian, died 660. The Venerable Bede.

8TH CENTURY A.D.

Kingdom of the Franks.

Continuation of the Mayors of the Palace.—Childebert III. died in 711, after a reign of sixteen years. The only important event under his successor, Dagobert III., was the death of Pepin of Heristal. This remarkable man had governed wisely for twenty-seven years. At his death Pepin left the office of mayor to his grandson Theodebald, under the guardianship of his widow Plectrude. He thus disinherited the only son who remained to him, Charles Martel, by another wife; but the Austrasians rebelled against such proceedings, and Plectrude was forced to flee with her grandson. Rainfroi was named mayor of Neustria; and Charles, mayor of Austrasia.

Struggle between Islamism and Christianity in the West, 732.—Battle of Tours.

From the African shores the Mussulmen rushed upon the rich soil of Spain. The battle of Xeres, fought 711, was decisive. The kingdom of the Visigoths passed under the dominion of the Mussulmen.

From Spain the descendants of Mahomet crossed the Pyrenees, and under the conduct of Abderamus, vice king of Spain, they advanced as conquerors to the centre of that country, which we must still call Gaul. After a terrible struggle, the field of carnage remained in possession of the Franks, and Christianity was saved.

Carlovingian Race.—Mayors of the Palace: Childeric III., 743, last of the Merovingians; Pepin the little, 750 to 768.

Charles Martel died 741; Carloman and Pepin, his sons, divided the government. Pepin, elected king of Neustria and Burgundy, proclaimed Childeric III. king. Carloman governed Austrasia, and, retiring to Rome, embraced a monastic life. In

752, Pepin deposed Childeric III.; by the Great Assembly at Soissons, and himself took the title of king. After his accession to the throne, Pepin took advantage by a visit of Pope Stephen to France, to have himself anointed king, although he had already been solemnly crowned at Soissons by Boniface, Archbishop of Mayence. At the same time he desired his sons to be anointed with him. The consecration took place at St. Denis. Pope Stephen II. had come into France to solicit from Pepin succour against Astolphus, king of the Lombards, who were besieging Rome. By his help and donations to the Pontiff he laid the foundation of the temporal power of the Popes.

756. Pepin made war against the Saxons, Lombards, and Saracens; his greatest combat was against Waifre, Duke of Aquitaine.

Foundation of the Empire of the West.

Charlemagne, king, 768 to 800; Emperor, from 800 to 814,—son, and successor, of Pepin the Little.—Charlemagne undertook fifty-three military expeditions, which had for object the repulsion of barbarians. Famous hero, invincible warrior, admirable law-giver, founder of the Empire, he aspired to every glory; he founded new schools, and even established some in his palace.

In 771, he commenced a terrible struggle against the Saxons. The celebrated Witikind, vanquished, retired into France, and became a Christian. Charlemagne fought alternately against the Saxons and Lombards. In 774 Didier, king of Lombardy, after a long defence, capitulated at discretion. Charlemagne having gone to Rome to settle a difference between Leo III. and his enemies, the Pope came, at the head of the Roman nobles, during a religious ceremony, to salute his deliverer as Emperor of the West, 800.

Charlemagne had put an end to the invasions of six centuries, and this was *his* work. His empire embraced Gaul, Italy, Germany, and Spain as far as the Ebro.

Spain—Mussulman and Christian.

Spain was conquered by the Arabs, who, having come from Africa, intermixed themselves with the Moors, whom they had subjugated. The battle of Xeres was decisive in 711. Roderick, last king of the Visigoths, perished during this fight, but Pelagius, a Visigoth lord, took refuge in the mountains of *Asturia*, and laid the foundation of a little kingdom, which was destined to serve as an aid for the Christians in their re-conquest of Spain.

756. Division of the Caliphate. Caliph of Cordova.—Ali died, assassinated; his son Assam had the same lot. Then arose the family of the Omniades, in the person of Moavia, grandson of Ommiah, a great personage of Mecca. Aboul Abbas, first Caliph of the race of the Abbassides, conqueror of the Omniades (749), ordained their massacre. Abderamus escaped death, and was the first independent Caliph in Spain (756.) Thus there were two Caliphs—one in the East, at Bagdad; the other in the West, at Cordova. Soon after there was a third in Africa, at Cairo.

Britain.

The Danes began their ravages, 787.

The Church and Empire of the East.

The Iconoclasts.—Leo III. was elected 717. The empire of the East was then peaceable. Leo III. undertook the abolition of the images of Christ and the Saints as of idols. Not succeeding in drawing over to his opinions St. Germain, patriarch of Constantinople, he used his own authority; and after an ordinance of the Senate, he was seen to break the image of our Saviour which was placed over the grand door of the Church of Constantinople.

Great Men who died in the 8th Century.

St. Boniface, first Archbishop of Mayence, massacred in 755;
Paul Aquila, secretary of Didier, historian of the Lombardians, 800.

9TH CENTURY A.D.

Second Empire of the West.

Louis I., Debonnaire, Emperor 814 to 840.—Charlemagne's work was to arraign the last armies of an invasion of six centuries ; but how was it possible to maintain after him, under one and the same dominion, so many people of different customs and origin ? Louis I., Debonnaire, son of Charlemagne, not being able alone to uphold the power of empire, associated to it his two sons, who twice deposed their emperor and father, caused him to die of grief, and disputed his heritage in arms. Louis I. had been remarkable among his subjects for his personal strength and agility in athletic sports ; he was very learned, but too weak and credulous.

Charles II., the Bold ; Louis II., the Stammerer ; Louis III. ; Carloman ; and Charles the Fat.

The Normans.—Louis I. died 840. His sons were not long in arming themselves against each other. First, the Emperor Lothair undertook to depose his younger brother, Charles the Bold ; the latter allied himself with Louis Germanicus, and both gained, over their eldest brother, the too famous battle of Fontenay.

843 is the date of the treaty of Verdun, which definitely divided the empire.

Charles the Bold reigned over that part of Gaul which we shall henceforth denominate France,—Lothair took the title of emperor ; ne reigned in Italy, and Louis Germanicus in Germany. In 855 Lothair abdicated in favor of his children, and retired to a monastery. "It is," said he, "a great mistake to think that the greatness of a sovereign consists in the extension of his lands ; it is best proved by justice and wisdom."

Louis II., the Stammerer, 877, Carloman, 879, and Charles the Fat, 884, successors of Charles the Bold, reigned in France, and had to combat with the Normans, who came from Scandinavia, now called Norway, Sweden, and Denmark. These Normans ravaged the greater part of the Western Empire about this time.

Eudes, king, 888 to 898—Charles III., the Simple.—Eudes does not belong to the family of Charlemagne. His accession is of great importance. Eudes was the national candidate of a mixed population which had fought for fifty years to form an independent state, and his reign marks the overture of a second series of civil wars, which terminated after a century in the definite exclusion of the Carlovingian race.

Charles III., the Simple, of the family of Charlemagne, had to wait the death of Eudes before he could ascend the throne, 898.

Feudal System—Fusion of Sovereignty and Property.—Meanwhile, the Lords, those ancient companions of kings, who had contributed to the downfall of the Merovingian race, and had lived in obeisance, made themselves independent under his successors; this independence gave birth to what is called the Feudal System, which is positively a fusion of property and sovereignty.

England—Poland—Russia.

Egbert, who, in 827, united the seven kingdoms of the Heptarchy, is considered the first king of all England. Among the successors of Egbert in this century, we must cite Alfred the Great, 871, who, dethroned by the Norsemen, or Danes, re-entered his kingdom in triumph, and a second time received the crown from the hands of Victory. Alfred well merited the title of great. He divided England into counties, established the first Militia, built ships, founded schools and colleges, punished those who did not educate their children, made good laws, and died regretted by all, 842.

The East.

Empire of the Arabs, or Caliphs—Empire of Greece, or of Constantinople.

Empire of the Arabs.—Bagdad, under the Caliph Al-mamoun, was the centre of the arts and sciences, and at the same time the empire of Constantinople was already on the fall.

Empire of the East.—To the empress Irene succeeded Nicephorus ; Staurace, son of Nicephorus, was constrained to retire into a monastery. Michael Curapolate, vanquished by the Bulgarians, was replaced by Leo, the Armenian, whose successor was Michael, the Stammerer, who permitted his empire to be dismembered by the Saracens.

The Church.

857. St. Ignatius, patriarch of Constantinople, excommunicated, on account of his bad conduct, Bardas, uncle of the Emperor of the East, Michel Porphyrogète. Michel, irritated, shut St. Ignatius up in prison, and gave the seat of Constantinople to Photius, who wrote to the Pope to beg of his approbation ; but the Pope, having found out what had passed, deposed and excommunicated Photius. By his accusations against the Roman Church, Photius sowed the seeds of division which were destined to bring about the separation between the Roman and Grecian Churches.

Celebrated Men who died in the 9th Century.

Alcuin, a learned man, who died 844 ; Turpin, a monk of St. Denis, 804 ; St. Paulin, 800 ; Methodius, patriarch of Constantinople, 846 ; Eginhard, secretary and historian to Charlemagne.

The present French language may be said to have descended from the Gallo-Roman language, and German from Tudesque.

10TH CENTURY A.D.

France.

912. The fixed Establishment of the Normans, under Charles III.—We have said that it was only upon the death of Eudes that Charles III., of the family of Charlemagne, was recognized king. He reigned 22 years without opposition. It was during this time that Neustria began to be called Normandy. Rollo, first duke of Normandy, was a remarkable prince, conqueror, and legislator. He married the daughter of the king, and became a Christian. Robert, duke of France, was proclaimed king 922; Charles III. killed him at the battle of Soissons. After his victory (by which he was no doubt startled), Charles took refuge with the Count of Vermandois.

Hugh the Great, 923; Raoul, 936; Louis IV., 954; Lothair, 986; Louis V.—Hugh the Great, son of Robert, who inherited his power, and would have been able to take possession of the crown, recalled from England a son of Charles the Simple, Louis, who reigned in France while Hugh governed.

At the death of Louis, his son Lothair succeeded him without apparent opposition. By the invasions of the great vassals, Lothair witnessed his estates nearly reduced to the town of Laon, and thus did the vast empire of Charlemagne dwindle away. Louis V., the last king of the Carlovingian race, succeeded Lothair, and reigned but one year (987).

Capetan Race, 987; Hugh Capet, 996; Robert the Pious.—Hugh Capet, son of Hugh the White, first king of the Capetan race, seized the crown 987.

The accession of the third race is, properly speaking, the end of the reign of the Franks, and the substitution of the Gallo-Roman for the Tudesque. With Hugh Capet begins the Feudal Monarchy.

996. Robert, heir of Hugh Capet, was a pious prince, and learned for his times; he was also a poet. The Roman Catholic Church still chants the responses and sequences of his composition. He very much feared his wife (Constance), and allowed himself to be robbed by the poor.

Germany—Hungary—Spain—Denmark.

Germany.—Louis, the infant, was the last descendant of Charlemagne in Germany; he died 911. The crown became elective. Conrad, Duke of Franconia, was elected king of Germany, 911.

918. Henry the Bird Catcher succeeded Conrad. He was catching birds when he received the news of his election; thence his surname.

936. Otho the Great, son of Henry the Bird Catcher, married Adelaide, widow of Lothair, king of Lombardy, and took the title of king of the Lombards. Invited by John XII., king of Italy, he went to Milan, where he was crowned king of Italy; from thence he went to Rome, where the Pope conferred on him the title of emperor, 962. From that time the empire passed into Germany.

973. Otho II., son of Otho the Great; 983, Otho III., son of Otho II. The domination of Italy was then, and continued long to be, the grand pre-occupation of Germany.

Hungary.—Stephen I., duke of Hungary, received (year 1000) from Pope Sylvester II., the title of king.

Spain.—Abderamus III. reigned at Cordova; his reign was glorious. Notwithstanding, after 50 years' prosperity, he acknowledged that he scarcely enjoyed a fortnight's happiness.

Central Spain, under the domination of the Christians, comprehended at that time the kingdoms of Navarre, of Leo, of Castile, and of Arragon.

Denmark.—926. Harold Blue Tooth was the first Christian king of Denmark.

England.

900.—Edward the Elder, son of Alfred the Great, succeeded him; he was elected by the Anglo-Saxons.

925.—Athelstane.

941.—Edmund Ironsides.

946.—Eldred.

955.—Edwy.

957.—Edgar the Pacific.

975.—Edward the Martyr, whose mother-in-law caused him to be assassinated.

978.—Ethelred II. He caused the Danes (whom he had permitted to establish themselves in his dominions) to be massacred, and was punished for this cruelty by a terrible invasion.

Russia, Poland, 980.—Saint Vladimir, first Christian Grand Duke of Russia. 964.—Miceslas, first Christian Grand Duke of Poland.

The Church in the 10th Century.

It was at the end of this century, 999, that Gerbert became pope, under the name of Sylvester II. He was born at Auvergne, 930, of a poor family. He possessed for his time prodigious knowledge in geometry, mechanics, and astronomy.

Great Men of the 10th Century.

Suidas, author of a Greek Dictionary Lexicon, 900; Luitprand, secretary of Berenger II., king of Italy, 970; Reginon, chronicler, 915.

11TH CENTURY A.D.

France.

Henry I., 1031.—Constance, wife of Robert, wished to deprive Henry I., her eldest son, of the throne, to give it to Robert. Henry, aided by the Duke of Normandy, defeated the rebels, and, generous in victory, he gave the Duchy of Burgundy to his brother Robert. The reign of Henry I. was filled with petty feudal wars. The conquest of Southern Italy was the principal event of this reign.

Philip, 1060, succeeded Henry I.; he was excommunicated three times for repudiating Bertha, his legitimate wife. Destined to be a spectator of great events without taking a part in them, Philip was witness of the Conquest of England by the Normans; he saw the first Crusade deliberated and resolved upon, in his kingdom, at the Council of Clermont, presided over by Urban II.

Crusades, or Renewed Struggles between Christianity and the Infidels.—The name Crusades is specially given to several expeditions which, from 1095 to 1291, were undertaken under the auspices of the Pope, by different kings and lords of Europe, with the intention of driving away the infidels from the Holy Place where our Saviour lived and died. All who took part in these expeditions wore a red cross, whence they received the name of Crusaders. There are generally considered to be eight crusades. The first took place 1095 to 1100, under the pontificate of Urban II.; it was preached by Peter the Hermit, and had at its head Godfrey of Bouillon.

Germany—Italy.

1002.—Henry II., the Saint, was the last Emperor of the Saxon house.

1024.—Conrad II. was the first emperor of the Franco-Salic house.

Henry III., 1039, son of predecessor, deposed several popes.

1043. Commencement of the Norman Conquests in Italy.—Tancredi and Hautville were the chiefs of this expedition.

Disputes between Gregory VII. and Henry IV.—Henry IV. succeeded Henry III., his father, 1066. His dispute with Gregory VII. began 1074. The disturbances which had several times accompanied the elections of the popes had caused the latter to solicit the intervention of the emperors. But this submission of the pontifical election to the good pleasure of the emperors necessarily menaced the independence of the heads of the Church. Gregory VII. first fought for the independence of popedom against Henry IV.

This fight soon became complicated with that of the investitures. When an ecclesiastical see became vacant, the emperors took it upon themselves to invest the bishops temporally and spiritually. Gregory VII. rose with force against this investiture conferred by laymen, and reclaimed for the popes the right of investing the bishops. In this quarrel the pope was sustained by the famous Countess Matilda, sovereign of Tuscany.

The first phase of these disputes was only terminated 1122, by the Treaty of Worms.

Pope Calixtus II. gave up to Henry V. the right of giving temporal investitures, and secular benefits, reserving for himself the right of conferring the ecclesiastical titles.

Christian Spain—Mussulman Spain—England.

Spain.—Christian Spain had attained the height of its power under Sancho the Great, who died 1033. His estates were divided among his sons.

It was in this century that the famous Rodrigue Diaz of Bivar, so well known by the name of Cid (chief), terror of the Moors.

The Caliphate of Cordova was then divided into a crowd of little states, independent one of another.

England—Conquest of England by William the Conqueror.—After the death of Edward the Confessor, in 1066, William the Conqueror, Duke of Normandy, son of Robert the Magnificent, took possession of the throne of England. Harold, brother-in-

law of Edward the Confessor, had just been proclaimed king in 1065. William met his adversary with a good army at Hastings, and won a complete victory, and had himself crowned king of England.

1087. William Rufus succeeded his father, to the exclusion of Robert, his elder brother, then in Palestine. He even compelled Robert to cede to him Normandy.

Empire of the East.

Constantinople—Empire of the Caliphs.

1053. **Schism of the Greek Church.**—The quarrels commenced in the 9th century, under Photius, between the Patriarchs of Constantinople and the Pontiffs of Rome, continued, and led to the definite separation of the Churches, that of the East and that of the West.

Caliphate of Bagdad.—Utterly deprived of their temporal power, the Caliphs of the East retained but a vain and weak spiritual power. The Turks had made an entire conquest of their empire.

The Caliphs of Cairo still possessed Egypt, but they beheld the Turks, masters already of Judea, advance to the borders of the Isthmus which separates them from Asia.

Great Men of the 11th Century.

1008, Aimoin, historian ; 1003, Gerbert, pope, under the name of Sylvester II. ; 1050, Guy D'Arrezzo, to whom we are indebted for the gamut ; Marianus Scotus, author of a chronicle dating from the birth of Christ to 1083.

12TH CENTURY A.D.

France.

1108. Louis VI., the Fat, succeeded his father, Philip I. The wars which he carried on against England were as yet only feudal wars. Under this king there broke out a general discontent among the mediocrity, towards the aristocracy. The burgesses rose, not exactly against the feudal system; the idea of overthrowing such a state of things could not have crossed them at that time. This commercial revolution had no other object in view than that of obtaining charters for the purpose of maintaining the rights of each and all.

In 1109, Henry I. of England, third son of the Conqueror, gained, over Louis VI., the battle of Brenneville.

1137. Louis VII., the younger, succeeded his father, Louis VI. In 1147 he joined the Second Crusade. The Abbey Suger, minister of Louis VII., opposed this crusade, but the councils of Saint Bernard, favorable to the expedition, were received as an oracle of heaven.

Louis VII. departed for Asia; the Emperor Conrad III. had preceded him. On his return from the crusade Louis VII. divorced Eleanor of Guienne, and two months after, this queen gave her hand and estates to Henry Plantagenet, who, by the name of Henry II., afterwards became King of England, and, by his marriage, Duke of Normandy, Aquitania, Count of Anjou, Touraine, and Maine.

1180. Philip Augustus.—Raised to the throne 1180, at the age of 15, the new king, son of Louis VII., undertook the Third Crusade, 1189, with Richard Cœur de Lion, king of England, his friend, who from that time became his brilliant rival, had all the faults of the men of the Middle Ages, but for that reason only pleased them the more. It is just to say that a crusade had become necessary. Saladin had taken Jerusalem in 1187. Scarcely had they reached Sicily when disputes arose between Philip and Richard.

The taking of Acre was the principal event of this Crusade, but this conquest did little good to the Christian cause.

Philip Augustus returned to France ; Richard Cœur de Lion remained there alone, and performed prodigies of valor. It was proverbially spread that his shadow caused the horses of the Saracens to tremble, and that he always returned from the field with his shield pierced with arrows. On his return to England Richard passed through Germany, and unfortunately fell into the hands of Leopold of Austria, who sold him to the Emperor Henry VI. The latter detained him a prisoner fifteen months.

Germany, Italy, Portugal, England.

Germany.—1106. Henry V., who had revolted against his father, strove also against the Papal chair. Under him took place the Treaty of Worms.

1125. Lothair II. War against Roger II., king of Sicily.

1137. Conrad III., of the house of Swabia. The struggle between the popes and the emperors continued, under the names of Guelphs (for the popes), and Ghibellines (for the emperors).

1152. Frederic I., Barbarossa, nephew of Conrad III. Under him the celebrated treaty of Constance restored to Italy peace and independence. Frederic I. undertook a crusade in 1188, but was drowned in crossing a river, on his entrance into Syria.

1190. Henry VI., the Cruel, son of Barbarossa, triumphed in Sicily. Otho IV. succeeded him in 1197.

Rome.—Adrian IV. and Alexander III. were two noted popes of the 12th century.

The renewal of the rights of Italy dates from 1183. Irene taught the Roman laws (Justinian code) at Bologna.

Portugal.—The kingdom of Portugal was founded 1139, by Alphonso Henrique, who vanquished five Moorish princes.

England.—In 1087, William II., Rufus, succeeded William the Conqueror, thus superseding his eldest brother, Robert, then in the Crusades. On the return of Robert from the Holy Land, though he claimed his rights, he did not succeed in obtaining them, and having mortgaged Normandy to his brother to raise

money to defray his expenses while in the Holy Land, lost even that, as he was unable to repay the sum borrowed.

In 1100, Henry I., third son of William the Conqueror, also usurped the throne, and put Robert in prison, where he died.

1135. Stephen, count of Blois, was son of a daughter of William I., who had married a count of Blois. At the death of Henry I., he usurped the throne of Matilda, legitimate heiress and daughter of this prince. He was obliged for a long time to defend himself against Matilda and her son, who succeeded under the name of Henry II.

1154. Henry II., son of Matilda and Geoffrey Plantagenet, Count of Anjou, married Eleanor, whom Louis VII. had repudiated. In 1171 he conquered Ireland. His reign was troubled by disputes, which arose between himself, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Thomas à Becket, and the clergy of England, on his publishing the Constitutions of Clarendon, which restrained the jurisdiction of the ecclesiastical tribunals. The church gained the day, but Thomas à Becket was assassinated in 1170.

Attacked on all sides by enemies, who were joined by his son, and wife Eleanor, Henry died of sorrow in 1189. His son *Richard Cœur de Lion* succeeded him, of whom we have already spoken.

The East.—The Mussulmen.

Saladin, worthy rival of Richard Cœur de Lion, was the Mussulman hero of the 12th century. He took Jerusalem, as we have said, after the battle of Tiberius. He acted with great consideration towards the Christians; he even permitted them to pass out of the town safely by paying a moderate ransom.

An Arabian historian applies to them the following passage from the Koran:—"What gardens and fountains, what fields, covered with noble dwellings, which filled them with delight, have they left, and which we have given in heritage to another people."

Great Men of the 12th Century.

1153, Saint Bernard; 1163, Godfrey of Viterbo; Wycliffe, reformer.

13TH CENTURY A.D.

France.

Continuation of the reign of Philip Augustus.—The whole of Europe had rightly accused John Lackland of the murder of his nephew Arthur. The feudal laws, which by-the-bye often caused so much disorder, were signalized for once by a memorable example of justice. The Countess of Bretagne, mother of Arthur, prevailed upon the Peers of France to present a petition at the court, signed by the Barons of Bretagne. The King of England was summoned to appear before the Peers of France for having murdered a ward of the court of France. The accused, not appearing, was condemned to death, and all his French dominions declared confiscated to the King of France. John, who was at the same time tyrannical and cowardly, permitted himself to be stripped of Normandy, Anjou, Guienne, Poitou, and Maine.

1202. Fourth Crusade, commanded by Baldwin, Count of Flanders, during which the French took Constantinople. It was then that the empire of the Latins began, which did not cease to exist till the end of this century.

1202. The Albigenses.—The first reformers in France.—They were persecuted by Innocent III.

1214. Battle of Bouvines.—A formidable league was formed against France. The battle of Bouvines took place, in which France was victorious. It is said that on the eve of the battle, after the evening service, he held his crown up to the lords around him, saying: "To the most worthy." This may be disputed, but it is certain that on the morrow no one dared dispute the crown with Philip, for no one really had shewn himself more worthy of it than he.

In 1215, the English Barons gave the crown to Louis, son of Philip Augustus, but the death of John Lackland cooled the anger of the English, who declared for Henry III., son of the late king, against Louis, whom they besieged in London, and forced to quit England.

1223. Louis VIII., son of Philip, continued the work of his father against the English, whom he drove from the greater

part of France ; but he followed the advice of the Pope Honorius III., and made war against the Albigenses.

Louis VIII. had married Blanche of Castile, a princess as remarkable for her beauty as for her virtues. Before dying, he appointed her regent and instructress of his son, who was then only eleven years old.

1226. Louis IX., the Saint, son of Louis VIII. and Blanche of Castile. Though yet young, he seconded the great enterprises of his noble mother. As soon as he was able to carry arms, he conquered the English at Taillebourg and Saintes. Generous in victory, he accorded to his enemies more than they could hope for. Again adorning himself with his brilliant armour, he went to Palestine, and covered himself with fresh glory. He returned to France, where he administered justice to all who demanded it. But returning again to the Crusades, he died before Tunis, leaving behind him the greatest as well as the noblest of memories, those of a holy man, a legislator, and a hero.

Fifth and Sixth Crusades.—Jerusalem not having been delivered, the Barons of the Holy Land were continually invoking the succour of Christendom. Andrew II., king of Hungary, undertook, in 1217, the Fifth Crusade ; it was directed against Egypt, without any success.

The Sixth Crusade, undertaken in 1229, was more useful. Frederic II., emperor of Germany, profiting by the terror which the approach of the hordes of Tartary inspired in Malek-Hadel, obtained from him, without combat, a truce of ten years, and the restitution of Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Nazareth, and Sidon, and was crowned king of Jerusalem.

Seventh and Eighth Crusades.—Saint Louis undertook, in 1248, the Seventh Crusade, which was the fifth the French had joined in. This crusade was necessary, even indispensable. The Mongols, coming down from their mountains, marched across Asia, and threatened to make of the world another desert. And we are now aware that St. Louis was as much solicited by the Mussulmen as by the Christians. This king departed for Egypt, where he took Damietta, in 1249 ; but in the following year, having been taken prisoner after the battle of Mansourah, he gave up Damietta, and passed into Palestine, where he remained four years. On his return to France, he began that legislative revo-

lution which was the real glory of his reign. He abolished the ordeals of fire and water, replacing them by witnesses and evidence, written and verbal, and thus insured the equity of judgment.

The Eighth Crusade was also undertaken by Louis the Saint, in 1270. This good king died before Tunis; the last page of his history is also that of the crusades. Saint Louis, who was at the same time a hero and an excellent legislator, is really the model man of the middle ages.

1270. Philip III., the Hardy, succeeded his father, Saint Louis. In his reign took place the massacre named the "Sicilian Vespers" (1282), after the occupation of Sicily by the brother of Saint Louis, Charles of Anjou.

1285. Philip IV. The reign of this king is a great epoch in the history of the French nation. For the first time the middle class were permitted to take a place with the clergy and nobility in the general assemblies of the nation.

1297. Battle of Furnes, gained by Philip IV. over the Flemings, allies of the English. It was in 1298 that a truce was signed between France and England, by which Philip IV. gave his sister Margaret in marriage to Edward I., and his daughter Isabella to Edward II., son of Edward I.

Germany—Italy—Spain.

Germany.—1220. Frederic II., successor of Otho, of Brunswick, undertook the Sixth Crusade in 1229. At the death of Conrad IV., 1254, began the long interregnum, which lasted up to the election of Rodolphus in 1273.

1273. House of Hapsburg or Austria—Rodolphus.—This emperor re-established the public peace. He could not, however, obtain the election of his son Albert. In 1292, Adolphus of Nassau was elected emperor. Albert of Austria succeeded him in 1298. The Hanseatic League dates from 1241.

Italy.—1286. Conquest of Naples, by Charles of Anjou; fall of the Republic of Pisa; the rise of Genoa; Italy, torn by the factions of the Guelphs and Ghibellines, beheld her northern provinces disputed by a crowd of petty tyrants.

Spain.—1253. The reign of Alphonso X., the Wise, who completed the code of Arragon and Castile. The Moors still occupied the south of Spain.

England.

Magna Charta signed by John Lackland, 1215.—We know that John Lackland, successor of Richard Cœur de Lion, lost, by his crime, Anjou, Maine, Normandy, and Poitou. He was obliged, in 1215, to sign the Magna Charta, which laid the foundation of English liberty. John died in 1216. His son Henry III. succeeded him. It was this king whom Louis IX. vanquished at Taillebourg and Saintes. In 1272, Edward I., surnamed Longshanks, succeeded Henry III. In 1282 he conquered Wales. Edward I. had joined St. Louis in the Eighth Crusade.

The East.—Grecian or Southern Empire.

In 1261, Michael Pateologos re-took Constantinople from the Latins. (*See Fourth Crusade.*)

1206. Empire of the Mongols.—It was in 1206 that the famous Gengis-Khan, whose name signifies King of Kings, founded the empire of the Mongols. Othman is regarded as the founder of the Turkish empire.

Africa.

The Mamelukes were already powerful in those days. Their name signifies Warrior Slaves.

The Church.

Innocent III., pope from 1189 to 1217, made himself absolute master of Rome, and shewed much zeal for the reformation of manners. Gregory IX., his second successor, who died at the age of a hundred years, defended the independence of the church of Italy, 1241. This epoch is that of the height of the Papal power. It was Boniface VIII. who, at the end of this century, published a jubilee in 1300.

Great Men of the 13th Century.

1231, Peter de Fontaines—this author is considered the oldest jurisconsult of French rights ; 271, Robert of Sorbonne ; 1294, Roger Bacon ; 1274 Saint Thomas Aquinas.

14TH CENTURY A.D.

France.

Continuation of the reign of Philip IV.—Flanders was under the dominion of France ; but the tyranny of Jacques de Chatillon revolted the Flemings. Fifteen hundred French were massacred at Bruges.

The massacre of Bruges was followed by the disastrous battle of Courtrai, lost by the nobility of France against the middle class of Flanders, commanded by the weaver Peter le Roy. Philip took his revenge at the battle of Mons-en-Puelle (1308).

At this period, with regard to levying money on the clergy, scandalous quarrels arose between the Pope Boniface VIII. and Philip IV.

The Templars.—In 1118, nine French noblemen had established the order of the Knights Templars, whom kings began to regard with suspicion on account of their immense riches. Philip caused all the Knights Templars in his kingdom to be arrested and accused of crimes, the enormities of which were even enough to prove their improbability. Some denied these accusations ; others, racked and overcome with torture, acknowledged to them, but retracted immediately after ; more than a hundred cavaliers were burnt alive, and among them Jaques Molay, grand master of the order. Their immense possessions were confiscated. It was after the quarrels with Boniface that Philip IV. united the three orders into the States-General : clergy, nobility, and mediocrity.

1314. Louis X., the Hutin, eldest son of Philip IV., succeeded him.

Charles of Valois, uncle of the new king, took possession of the whole authority. This prince accused his prime minister, Enguerrand de Marigny, of dishonest practices. The ordinances of Louis X. granted freedom to the vassals of the royal domains.

John I., and Philip V., the Long.—After the death of Louis X., the queen gave birth to a son, John I., who only lived eight days.

The Duke of Burgundy maintained that Jane, daughter of the late king, ought to reign, but the Salic Law excludes women from the throne of France. Philip V., brother of Louis X., was proclaimed; and Jane married Philip, Count d'Evreux, bringing as her portion Navarre. From this marriage was born Charles, called the Bad.

Under Philip V. there reappeared in France, bands of peasants called Pastorals, who had already desolated France during the captivity of Saint Louis.

1322. Charles IV., Le Bel, third son of Philip IV.—“This prince,” said Dutillet, “was a severe judge, caring for the rights of all.”

England—Sweden—Norway—Denmark.

England, 1307.—Edward II., son of Edward I., was a weak prince. The nobility forced him to share his government with a number of barons, and caused his favorite, Spencer, to be beheaded. His queen Isabella, daughter of Philip IV., overcome with insult, retired to France, raised a few troops, and returned to England. She caused her husband to be dethroned by an order of Parliament, and proclaimed her son Edward III. Edward II. and his brother, the Duke of Kent, were beheaded shortly after.

Edward III. early threw off the regency of his mother, and, though he renounced the sovereignty of Scotland, declared war against David Bruce, son of Robert, was victorious at Halidon-hill, and gave Scotland as a fief to Edward Baliol.

From 1362, the public Acts of England were no longer laid down in French.

1377. Richard II., grandson of Edward III., and son of the celebrated Black Prince, showed himself weak, indolent, and lavish. His cousin, the Duke of Hereford, son of the Duke of Lancaster, had himself crowned, taking the name of Henry IV., 1399. Richard perished in prison, it is said by order of his cousin. He was perhaps starved to death.

Sweden: Union of Colmar.—In 1387, at the Assembly of the States-General, held at Colmar, the crowns of Sweden, Denmark, and Norway were confederated by Margaret of Waldemar, surnamed the Semiramis of the North.

Germany—Switzerland.

1308. Henry VII., of Luxemburg.—At the death of Albert I. of Austria, the crown passed again to the House of Hapsburg, or Austria. Henry VII. was elected, to the exclusion of the son of Albert. He also asserted the rights of Germany over Italy.

1313. Louis V., of Bavaria, and Frederick the Bel, disputed the empire. This was again an unfortunate period for Germany.

1347. Charles IV., grandson of the emperor Henry VII.—During his reign the imperial authority was singularly degraded ; it was, nevertheless, he who published the famous constitution called the Golden Bull. This Bull fixed seven as the number of electors. **1378.** Penceslas, called the Drunkard, son of Charles IV., dishonored his reign by his debaucheries. Robert was his successor.

Switzerland.—In 1307 Switzerland shook off the government of Austria. Stauffacher, Waller Turst, and Arnold Metethal, swore to gain for their country a noble independence, or die while fighting for their liberty. The adventure of William Tell hastened this revolution. It was at the foot of the mountains of Grutli, on the borders of the lake, during the night, beneath the star-lit sky, that the three deliverers of Switzerland solemnly took their vows of revenge, taking Heaven as their witness to the holiness of their cause, and praying the God of Justice to aid their noble and courageous efforts.

Italy—Spain—Portugal.

Italy, 1354.—Nicolas Rienzi attempted to re-establish the tribunal at Rome. After some brilliant successes, he died assassinated. The poet Petrarch had been the inspiring genius of the tribune Rienzi. In the same year the Doge Marino Faliero was decapitated at Venice.

Spain, 1367.—Henry Trastamere, with the aid of Duguesclin, dethroned his brother, Peter the Cruel.

Portugal, 1357-67.—Reign of Peter the Judge. He avenged the death of his wife, Ines of Castro.

The Hundred Years' War between France and England.

In dying, Charles IV. left four daughters. Two princes laid claim to the throne of France; Edward III. of England, grandson of Philip IV. by his mother Isabella, who had married Edward II.; and Philip of Valois, brother of Philip IV.

Edward III. held his rights by a woman, who, according to the decision of the States-General, had no right to the throne, and consequently could not transmit to him what did not belong to her. Philip VI. was proclaimed. This was the principal cause of the Hundred Years' War.

1328. First Valois Branch; Philip VI. of Valois.—It was therefore in this reign that began the first national wars between England and France. These "Wars of a Hundred Years" did not cease till the close of the 15th century. Joan of Arc became the martyr of French liberty.

Edward III. was ten years preparing himself for them.

1340. Naval battle of Ecluse, gained by the English. French fleet destroyed.

1346. Battle of Crecy.—The impetuosity of the French nobility lost this battle.

The siege of Calais recalls the heroic devotion of Eustace de Saint Pierre and his companions.

1350. John II., the Good.—On his coronation day, John armed a great number of noblemen. France put all her hope in this king, full of vigour, courage, and youth.

In 1355, the States-General voted funds for the war, on condition that they should be legally distributed.

1356. Battle of Poitiers; the King of France made prisoner.—It was on this occasion that the Prince of Wales, victor in this famous battle, treated his prisoner with the courtesy that Porus demanded of Alexander—namely, that due to a king.

It was during the captivity of John II. that Charles the Bad, king of Navarre, conceived the project of making himself king of France, and Marcel, John Maillard, and some others, played parts with the spirit of freedom which manifested itself everywhere. After the treaty of Bretigny, signed 1360, John returned to France; but a son, whom he had left as hostage,

having quitted London, and not being able to collect enough money for his ransom, he returned to that town, saying—"If honour is banished from the earth, it must and shall still be found in the heart of kings."

1364. Charles V., the Wise.—Bertrand Duguesclin is the hero of the reign of Charles V. He repulsed the English. On his death-bed, this brave Breton cavalier, in saying adieu to old companions in arms, repeated to them what he had so often said: "In whatever country you carry on war, always remember that women, old men, and children, are not your enemies; cover them with your shield, and never raise the sword against them."

Charles V. established peace among his people by wise laws; he encouraged letters and learned men. "As long as science and sapience remain honoured in this kingdom," said this wise king, "it will continue in prosperity; when rejected, it will fall."

1380. Charles VI., the Beloved.—During the minority of Charles VI., the Dukes of Burgundy, Berry, and Orleans, seized the power. It was a time of disorder in Paris. Assassins, under the name of Maillotins, assaulted the tax-gatherers.

In 1392, Charles VI. marched against the Duke of Bretagne, who was secreting the assassin Clisson; but while crossing the forest of Mans, startled by a sudden apparition, he lost his reason. During his derangement, his uncles reassumed the regency, and civil war recommenced. In 1407, the Duke of Orleans, brother of the king, was assassinated at the instigation of the Duke of Burgundy. France was divided into two parties—that of the Burgundians, partizans of the Duke of Burgundy, and the Armagnacs, partizans of the Duke of Orleans.

East.

Asia.—1310. The knights of St. John of Jerusalem took the island of Rhodes from the Turks. This order took the name of the order of Rhodes, as it afterwards, in 1530, took that of Malta when it conquered that island.

It was in 1370 that Tamerlane laid the foundations of that vast empire which took the name of Gengis Khan.

Church—Great Schism.

1378. After the death of Gregory XI., who had re-established the Papal chair at Rome, the Cardinals were obliged to elect Urban VI. ; they afterwards annulled this nomination, and chose Clement VII., who took up his abode at Avignon.

The Church was thus divided, and the great schism of the West commenced. England and Germany declared for Urban VI. France recognised Clement VII.

Great Men who died in 14th Century.

John of Paris, a famous Dominican ; Laura, a celebrated lady of Provence ; Barthole, celebrated juriconsult ; John Buridan, native of Bethune, rector of the University of Paris ; John Boccacio, native of Certaldo, 1375 ; Saint Catherine, of Sienna, 1380 ; Petrarch, famous Italian poet, 1374 ; John Froissart, native of Valenciennes, famous chronicler ; Dante, the sublime poet, born at Florence, 1265, died at Ravenna 1321 ; shortly after this, the Sire Joinville died in France, nearly a hundred years old.

MODERN HISTORY.

FROM 1453.

15TH CENTURY A.D.

Modern history commences chronologically in 1453, date of the taking of Constantinople by the Turks. This event was destined to have a great influence over the affairs of the nations; the intellectual riches of the East were by it transmitted to the West; but the changes which took place in this century were not alone due to conquest. The *invention of the compass*, of *gunpowder*, and, above all, that of *printing*, the *discovery of America*, &c., contributed to the transformation of States, and gave place to a new order of politics.

France.

1415. Battle of Agincourt, lost by the French against the English.

In 1419, John, surnamed "Sans-peur," was assassinated on the bridge of Montereau, by order of the Dauphin. This crime threw Philip the Good into the party of the English. 1420 is the date of the treaty of Troyes, by which the infamous Isabella of Bavaria, wife of Charles VI., was compelled to deprive her own son, Charles VII., of the crown, and give it into the hands of Henry V. of England. But Charles VI. died in 1422, and his death was partly the means of saving France.

1422. Charles VII., the Victorious.—At the death of his father, Charles VI. was in a castle in Velay, and while there he was proclaimed king, who so much needed the protection of heaven to save his country from the dominion of a stranger.

Joan of Arc.—As if by inspiration, a young girl named Joan, a shepherdess of Domremy, in Lorraine, was transformed into a

great captain. She delivered Orleans, became the protector of the son of St. Louis, and shielded him from danger in battle, (1429). At last, passing through the numerous troops of English, who then occupied the whole of France, Joan conducted her king to Rheims, where all the French kings were anointed. Her glorious mission accomplished, Joan desired to quit the palaces of kings, to return and die in her native cottage. But this favor was refused. She was retained in the army, made prisoner by the Burgundians, and shamefully sold to the English, who burnt her as a witch (1431).

The King made a reconciliation with the Duke of Burgundy, and solemnly entered Paris, 1436.

Charles VII., or his generals, retook all the places of Normandy, and the battle of Formigny laid the last stroke to English dominion in France.

1461. Louis XI.—From the early age of seventeen he had excited against his father a revolt known under the name of *Praguerie*. To escape the punishment he merited, he took refuge with the Duke of Burgundy, Philip the Good, at whose court he remained until the death of his father. No sooner was he on the throne than he put out of office all those of noble birth who held high positions, and gave his confidence to the lowest of the low, among others, Oliver Daim, or Devil, his barber, who abused his power ; to the tax-gatherer, Tristan the hermit, whom the king called his gossip. He was a profound politician, but treacherous and mean, and died hated by all, in the castle of Plessis-les-Tours, where he had long hidden himself in the fear of being murdered.

1483. Charles VIII. ascended the throne at the age of thirteen, under the regency of Anne of Beaujeu, his sister. The states of Tours confirmed this regency. The Duke of Orleans, first of the blood, excited a civil war ; but in 1488 he was vanquished and made prisoner at the battle of Saint Aubin. Charles VIII. released him, and the Duke of Orleans became faithfully attached to him.

1494. War with Italy.—Charles VIII. entered Rome, marched against Naples, and was proclaimed king. He was a prince of great personal valour, but his ambition and valour did little good to his subjects, for he soon lost his conquest, and effecting a retreat, he gained the battle of Fournoue (1495).

He thought of reconquering Naples, and even taking Constantinople, but death put an end to his projects. He merited the surname of the "Affable."

1498. Louis XII., "Father of the People."—Charles VIII. left no children. The Duke of Orleans, grandson of Louis of Orleans, and Valentine of Milan, great grandson of Charles V., was proclaimed king. This prince, honored by the name of "Father of the People," was clement, and most generous. "The King of France," he used to say to the Duke of Tremouille, "the King of France avenges not the injuries of the Duke of Orleans."

In 1500, Louis XII. and Ferdinand, king of Spain, agreed to share Italy between them.

Germany—Hungary—Italy—Spain.

Germany.—1401. Robert was succeeded in 1410 by Sigismund. It was in the reign of this emperor that the Council of Constance took place, under which John of Huss suffered martyrdom for preaching against the authority of the Pope. The house of Hapsbourg of Austria, which, since Rodolphus in 1273, had already supplied Germany with several emperors, again, in the person of Albert II. furnished one, and from him, 1438, it became hereditary. After that the house of Hapsbourg enlarged its power, by the marriage of the Archduke Maximilian, son of Frederic III., with Maria, heiress of the States of Burgundy.

1440. Frederic III., cousin of Albert, was the last emperor crowned at Rome.

1493. Maximilian, son of Frederic III., succeeded him. It was he who married Maria of Burgundy, and was the grandfather of Charles V.

Hungary.—It was in 1443 that a crusade against the Turks took place in Hungary. John Hunyade, surnamed Corvin, won a great victory. John Castriot, surnamed Alexander the Great, was also one of the heroes in the war against the Turks.

Central Italy; Florence.—Italy offered at this time a magnificent spectacle of civilization, amidst the barbarity of the rest of Europe. She became like a fleece of gold, which all the other nations sought to conquer. At the beginning of this century, John

of Medici, by his riches and the favour of the people, raised his family, at Florence, to very great consideration in the state. Cosmo, his son, was exiled by his enemies in 1433, but his benevolence and cleverness procured for him a triumphant return. He remained at the head of financial affairs until his death, in 1464, and received from his fellow-citizens the glorious surname of Father of his Country.

After the death of his son Peter, 1469, his grandson Laurence inherited his possessions and authority, and merited the surname of Father of the Muses, by his protection of Arts and Letters.

North Italy; Piedmont.—The illustrious and noble house of Savoy, whose chief, Humbert White Hands, lived at the beginning of the 11th Century, takes an important place in the history of the 15th Century.

Amadeus VIII. received the dignity of Duke from the Emperor Frederic, in 1416. He was for some time Pope, under the name of Felix.

The princes of the house of Savoy took first the titles of Count of Savoy from 1027 to 1416, and received definitely that of Kings of Sardinia, 1720.

They were entitled Kings of Cyprus from the time that Charles I., the Warrior, had inherited this title from his mother, Charlotte of Lusignan, 1489.

Spain.—Ferdinand, son of John, king of Arragon, married Isabella of Castile, and by this marriage Castile and Arragon were re-united.

Grenada.—The Moors, established in Spain since 711, only now possessed the kingdom of Grenada, from which they were driven in 1493: so that at the end of the 15th Century all Spain was united under one sceptre.

1492. Discovery of America, by Christopher Columbus.

England.

The famous Edward III. was succeeded by Richard II., his grandson.

In 1399, Henry IV. of Lancaster, son of the third son of

Edward III., took the crown from **Richard II.**, and at his death transmitted it to **Henry V.**, his son, in 1413.

Henry VI. succeeded him.

These are the three kings of the house of Lancaster who reigned after their usurpation, or their victory, over the house of York.

1453. Civil Wars of the Roses.—The house of York had in its arms a white rose, and that of Lancaster a red rose. **Henry VI.**, several times dethroned, and replaced on the throne, according to the good fortune of his party, died at last assassinated. **Margaret of Anjou**, having exhausted every means of raising her husband's party in favour of her children, took refuge in France, where she died, leaving behind her an heroic souvenir.

Edward IV. of York was proclaimed in 1461; he was descended, by his mother, from the second son of **Edward III.**

The children of Edward IV.—In 1483, **Edward V.**, eldest son of **Edward IV.**, succeeded him, at the age of thirteen, under the regency of **Richard Duke of Gloucester**, who, after having condemned to death **Earl Rivers**, took possession of the crown by the assassination of his two nephews, whom he caused to be smothered in the Tower of London. 1483. He lost his life at the battle of **Bosworth**, which was gained by **Henry Tudor Lancaster** (**Henry VII.**), **Earl of Richmond**.

1445.—**Henry VII.** began the Tudor dynasty, and united the houses of York and Lancaster by marrying **Elizabeth**, sister of **Edward V.**

Russia—Turkey—Empire of Greece.

Russia.—**Ivan III.**, the Great, who was the first to take the title of Czar, freed Russia from the yoke of the Tartars by forming alliances.

1402.—Battle of Anoyra. 1453.—Taking of Constantinople.—The famous **Tamerlane** was vanquisher, at the battle of **Anoyra**, 1402, of **Bajacut**, Sultan of the Turks, who died a year after his captivity. **Tamerlane**, who renewed the conquering march of **Gengis Khan**, died at the age of 99 years.

1453.—The taking of **Constantinople** by **Mahomet II.**, Sultan of the Ottoman Turks, and the death of **Constantine II.**, last

Greek prince, who perished gloriously in the defence of his subjects, put an end to the Empire of the East, the possessions of which passed under the dominion of the Turks.

Church.—Continuation of the Great Schism.

In 1409 the Council of Pisa put an end to the great schism, begun in 1378, by deposing the three contending Popes, and appointing Martin V. to the Papal Chair.

16TH CENTURY A.D.

France.

Louis XII. still reigned in France. The wars with Italy continued. The League of Cambray against Venice dates from 1508, and that of the Holy League against Louis XII. from 1510. The battle of Ravenna was fought on Easter Sunday, April 11th, 1512. At this battle, Gaston de Foix, Duke of Nemours, and son of Mary, sister of Louis XII., gained the victory by the loss of his own life at the age of twenty-three. Louis XII. twice took and lost Milan.

Louis XII. loved his people as much as he was loved by them. At his death the town crier went up and down the streets ringing a little bell and crying: "The good king Louis XII., the father of the people, is dead! Weep!" And the people wept.

1515. Francis I., Count of Angoulême, nephew of the late King.—This is the era of French literature. Francis loved and encouraged the arts; he was brave to excess in his own person, but his valor and ambition endangered the safety of his kingdom. He contended unsuccessfully for the German Empire. The Duke of Bourbon, a powerful lord, who resented the indignities he had received from the king and his mother, joined Charles V., of Germany, and Henry VIII., of England, in a confederacy to place Charles V. upon the French throne. Francis, by his valor and address, delivered his kingdom from the threatened danger; but, being unable to perform the conditions insisted upon by Charles after the fatal battle of Pavia, in which he wrote to his mother "he had lost everything but his honor," he was engaged in a war with the emperor till his death, 1547.

Henry II., son of Francis I.—The reign of this prince was chiefly distinguished by his wars with Pope Julius II. and the Emperor. Henry married Catherine of Medici, daughter of the Duke of Urbino. The battle of St. Quentin, fought with the Spaniards, was lost by the French; but Henry's celebrated

general, the Duke of Guise, preserved the lustre of the French arms against the united powers of England, Spain, and Flanders. He took Calais from the English. Henry was, unfortunately, killed at a tournament, by Montmorrencoi, while celebrating the nuptials of the Princess Elizabeth with Philip, King of Spain.

Francis II., son of Henry, 1559.—The government of the kingdom during this reign was entrusted to Catherine of Medicis. The king married Mary Queen of Scots; and, wholly guided by his mother and his uncles, the Guises, persecuted the Protestants, now known by the name of Huguenots. Worn out by the oppressions of the Catholic party, they at length took up arms; and this was the era of those dreadful civil, falsely termed religious, wars, which desolated France, and stain with indelible infamy the rulers of the French nation. Francis died after a short reign of two years. So little had the refinement of manners, and the cultivation which flourished under Francis I., softened the ferocity of fanaticism, that the Calvinists were burned at the stake. The foundation of the national debt, the weight of which broke down the throne 250 years after, was laid at this period.

Charles IX., second son of Henry II., succeeded, in his minority, 1560. Catherine Medicis governed him, and, joining to great ability, boundless ambition and keen revenge, she prevailed upon the king to arm against the Protestants, whose growing numbers she dreaded.

Civil wars followed; after which (on the memorable 24th August, 1572, massacre of St. Bartholomew) began that horrid massacre, which extended through Paris, Lyons, Orleans, Rouen, Angers, and Toulouse. Thus, merely for difference in opinion, 80,000 Frenchmen were inhumanly put to death by their vindictive enemies.

Charles after this concluded a peace with the Huguenots; and, a prey to severe remorse and the effects of a dreadful disorder, he expired, being only twenty-three years of age.

Henry III., brother of Charles, 1574.—He had been elected King of Poland, but on the death of Charles, the Poles chose another king. Henry, fond of pleasure, fickle, and irresolute, was governed by Catherine de Medicis.

The civil wars were renewed between the Catholics and the Protestants, one of which was called the Holy League, and

headed by the Duke of Guise. Henry, fearing this nobleman had designs upon the crown, basely caused him to be assassinated, with his brother the Cardinal of Guise, and the king shortly after experienced the same fate, from the hands of Clement the Monk. The detested Catherine de Medicis died just before her son, aged seventy.

Henry IV., the Great, first of the House of Bourbon, 1589.—He was bred a Protestant, and gallantly defended that cause when king of Navarre; but, wishing to heal disturbances and conciliate the affections of his people, in 1593 he went openly to mass, though he was always supposed to be attached to his old opinions. Soon after this he published the Edict of Nantes, which granted to the Protestants the exercise of their religion, the enjoyment of their estates, and made them eligible to public offices. After a glorious reign, Henry was assassinated by Ravallac, a monk of the order of Jesuits, in the streets of Paris.

Germany—Italy—Netherlands—Switzerland—Spain.

Germany.—Charles V., called Charles Quint, was son of Philip, Archduke of Austria, son of Maximilian I. and Jane, daughter of Ferdinand and Isabella. Declared king of Spain in 1516. Charles V., rival of Francis I., was elected emperor, 1519. Besides his wars against Francis I., Charles V. made also several expeditions into Africa; he defeated Barberousse in 1535, but failed in conquering Algiers 1541. He abdicated in favor of Ferdinand, his brother, 1556, having in the preceding year crowned his son, Philip, king of Spain.

Charles V. died two years after; on the eve of his death he went through his own funeral service, reclining in his coffin; the next day he was taken ill and died at the age of fifty-five, in 1558.

The reign of Ferdinand I., brother and successor of Charles V., was peaceable.

1564. Maximilian II., son of Ferdinand I., was a virtuous prince. 1572.—1619. Under Rodolphus, son of Maximilian, Germany was full of troubles. This emperor was learned and clever, but regardless of the affairs of his nation.

Italy.—This country, which, as we have seen, was the theatre of the wars of France, Germany, Spain, and England.

When Bayard, the "Knight without fear and without reproach," acquired his high renown, it was in Italy, then in the midst of her freshness and renewed civilization. Emanuel-Philibert, Duke of Savoy, the victor of Saint-Quentin, 1557, was a great prince.

Netherlands.—**William of Orange.**—At the death of Charles, 1477, took place the marriage of Mary of Burgundy, his daughter, with Maximilian; and, under Charles V., the seventeen Belgian provinces were completely united to the Spanish Monarchy. Lutheranism had been introduced into the Netherlands, where Philip II., king of Spain, sent the Duke of Alba, who created hatred, and exasperated the minds of the people. William of Orange placed himself at the head of the rebels, and, in 1575, he organized a league, which took in the States of Holland, Zealand, Utrecht, Zutphen, Gueldres, Ower-Yssel, Freisland, Groningen, and the towns of Ghent, Anvers, Bruges, and Brussels. These provinces threw off the domination of Spain, and William of Orange was proclaimed Stadtholder.

Switzerland.—1513. Confederation of the thirteen Cantons.

Spain.—**Portugal.**—Philip II., son and successor of Charles V., in Spain, 1556, had in 1554 married Mary, Queen of England. In the first years of his reign he continued the war with France. We have just seen how he lost the Netherlands, 1581. In 1588, a tempest destroyed the Invincible Armada, which he had armed against Elizabeth, Queen of England.

In 1580, at the death of Henry, called the Cardinal, Philip II. took possession of Portugal, which became a province of Spain.

England.

1509. **Henry VIII.**, successor of Henry VII., was prodigal, capricious, and tyrannical. He was, sometimes, the ally of Charles V., and sometimes with Francis I. The Pope honoured him with the title of Defender of the Faith, for writing a book entitled "A defence of the Seven Sacraments against Martin Luther;" but he shortly after left the Church of Rome, because he

could not obtain from Clement VIII. permission to put away his wife Catherine of Aragon, aunt of Charles V. He married Anne of Boleyn, after having bought the approbation of the principal Universities of Europe. He then called himself "The supreme Head of the English Church." The Parliament bent to all the caprices of this tyrant. Anne Boleyn herself became also the victim of his cruelty (1537). His third wife, Jane Seymour, gave birth to a son, Edward VI.; his fourth, Anne of Cleves, was soon repudiated; his fifth, Catherine Howard, died on the scaffold; and the sixth, Catherine Parr, might have had the same fate, but he died first.

1547. **Edward VI.**—During the minority of Edward VI., the administration was in the hands of Somerset, his maternal uncle.

1553. **Mary**, daughter of Catherine of Aragon, (1553-1558), beheaded Lady Jane Grey and Guilford Surrey. She married Philip II., of Spain. She tried to abolish Protestantism, and re-establish the convents.

1558. **Elizabeth.**—This queen, daughter of Anne Boleyn, declared for Protestantism. The only thing she preserved of the Roman Catholic rites, was the administration of bishops. Notwithstanding the reproaches that history addresses to Elizabeth, it must nevertheless be acknowledged that her reign was as prosperous as it was brilliant.

Mary Stuart, having returned to her kingdom of Scotland after the death of her first husband (Francis II., of France), 1561, made herself thoroughly disliked by her intolerance; and, being driven from the throne by her Scotch subjects, sought the protection of Queen Elizabeth, which the latter granted, but discovering that Mary conspired to dethrone her, caused her to be beheaded, 1587.

Prussia—Denmark—Sweden—Norway.

Prussia was created by the *secularisation* of the Teutonic Order, under their Grand Master, Albert Brandebourg.

1523. **Gustavus Wasa**, deliverer of Sweden.—The union of Colmar, of which we have already spoken, which united three

states into one, after having been several times broken, was definitely divided in 1523.

Christian II., son of John II., took the dominion of Sweden, and thought to affirm his power by numerous executions among the nobles and clergy. But Gustavus Wassa, one of the prisoners sent to Denmark, succeeded in escaping to Lubeck, raised the Dalécarlians, and delivered his country from the Danish yoke. He was elected king, 1523.

Empire of the Turks.

To Mahomet II., sultan of the Ottoman Turks, had succeeded, in 1481, Bajacetz II., and in 1512, Selim I., son of Bajacetz. Soliman II., the Magnificent, who ascended the throne 1520, extended his conquest in Europe.

1571. Battle of Lepanto, gained over the Turks by the Venetians and Spaniards, commanded by Juan of Austria, natural son of Charles V.

The Church.

Under Leo X., who had the honor of giving his name to this *century of great men*, broke out the Reformation, with Martin Luther at its head. He first dared openly to declare against the errors which had crept into the Church, 1517. Calvin propagated a still severer reform in 1532. The Council of Trent, from 1545 to 1563, was the nineteenth general council. It was several times interrupted, and ended in confirming the dogma of the Roman Catholic Church. In this century was founded the Order of the Jesuits, by Ignatius Loyola, 1534.

Great men who died in the 16th Century.

Raphael, painter, born at Urbino, died 1520. Ariosto, Italian Poet. St. François de Paul, 1507. Leopold de Vinci, of Florence, painter, 1519. Copernicus of Thorn, astronomer, 1543. Martin Luther, born at Mansfeld, son of John Marot, of Cahors, 1544. François Rabelais, of Chinon, 1553. Michael Angelo, died 99 years of age, painter, architect, and sculptor, 1564.

17TH CENTURY A.D.

France.

Louis XIII. succeeded his father, 1610, when only nine years of age. Mary of Medicis, his mother, was appointed regent; Cardinal De Retz, his minister. They renewed the civil wars which had continued during the reigns of five princes, and destroyed nine cities, 400 villages, and 2,000 monasteries by their horrid ravages. Upon the death of De Retz, Richelieu became minister; he humbled Spain, and the spirit of the French nobility; defeated the Huguenots, and checked the ambitious views of Austria; to him Louis owed his authority, for on his own account the king was little feared or loved by his people.

Louis XIV. succeeded his father, when only five years old, 1643. His mother, Anne, of Austria, with Cardinal Mazarin, conducted public affairs. This reign was the longest, and in its first part the most splendid, of any in the French annals. Turenne and the Prince of Condé multiplied the conquests of Louis, and obtained the most brilliant victories. Louis revoked the Edict of Nantes, and granted protection to James II., King of England. After the death of Mazarin, Colbert became prime minister, whose exertions in his country's service are never to be forgotten. Louis was the munificent patron of the arts, and twice defeated William III.; but Marlborough tore the laurels from his brow, and humbled his pride. He lived to see the English Government in the hands of Charles I., Cromwell, Charles II., James II., William and Mary, Anne, and George I.

Germany—Italy—Spain.

Germany.—It was in 1618, under Ferdinand II., that began the war called the Thirty Years' War. Richelieu, who kept down the Protestant party in France, upheld it in Germany, in opposition to the house of Austria, rival of the house of France.

The reigns of Ferdinand III. and of Leopold were taken up with wars against Louis XIV.

Italy.—The Neapolitans revolted against Spain, but their vice-king, Duke of Arcas, caused Masaniello, head of the conspirators, to be put to death.

Spain.—1611. **The Moors driven from Spain.**—Under Philip III., towards 1611, the Moors were driven entirely out of Spain. This was wrong, for the Moors were no longer to be feared: they had become industrious.

Portugal.—1640. Under Philip IV., Portugal rose against the domination of Spain, and the Duke of Braganza, aided by Pinto, his servant, ascended the throne of Portugal.

England—Russia—Sweden—China.

England.—1603. James VI. of Scotland, and I. of England, was son of Mary Stuart. He was the first king of the three kingdoms, England, Ireland, and Scotland. He was a good Protestant; under him took place the famous Gunpowder Plot, which was discovered in time to prevent any mischief. The conspirators were punished.

1625. Under Charles I., son of James I., took place a political and religious revolution. The King was taken prisoner by Parliament, and beheaded, January 30th, 1649.

Cromwell, under the title of Protector, governed England during eleven years; and at his death, his son Richard Cromwell was named Protector, but having no taste for government, he resigned, and Charles II., son of the unfortunate Charles I., became King. In 1685, he was succeeded by James II., who attempted to re-introduce Roman Catholicism, but failed, for a Revolution took place in favour of William of Nassau, son-in-law to James II., and the only Protestant member of the royal family. With the reign of this prince began the constitutional government of England, 1688.

Russia.—Russia, under Michael Romanoff, began to rank among European powers.

Sweden.—1611. **Gustavus Adolphus.**—During the Thirty Years' War, Sweden continued a faithful ally of France. Little

remarkable happened in Sweden from the time of Gustave Wasa until the Great Gustavus Adolphus became king. This Prince died in the midst of his triumphs at the battle of Lutzen, 1632.

1654. Christina succeeded Gustavus Adolphus: this queen protected the arts and sciences; she abdicated in 1654.

Turkey.—The empire of the Ottoman Turks had already entered on its decadence.

China was conquered by the Mantchou Tartars; the empire of the Mongols were then governed by the famous Aurengzebe.

Great men who died in 17th Century.

England.—Poetry—Shakespeare (greatest poet and dramatist), Milton, Dryden, Cowley, Prior, Addison, Otway, Rowe. Philosophy—Locke, Newton. Policy—Hobbes. Astronomy—Halley.

France.—Moral and Religious—Pascal, Bossuet, Fénelon, Bourdaloue, Massillon, Flechier. Metaphysics—Malebranche, Descartes. Poetry—Corneille, Racine, Boileau, Molière, La Fontaine. Literature—La Rochefoucauld, St. Evremond, La Bruyère. Sciences—Les Daciens, Pascal. History—Fleury, Mezeray, Perrault, Mainsard. The Académie Française owes its origin to Richelieu, 1635.

Italy.—Muratori, author of the Annals of Italy.

Holland.—Philosophy—Spinoza (a sceptic). Painting—Van Dyke; Rubens, born at Cologne 1577, died 1620.

Germany.—Kepler made out a table of Logarithms.

Piedmont.—Cassini worked out the measure for the meridian of Paris.

18TH CENTURY A.D.

Louis XV. succeeded his great grandfather, 1715. The Duke of Orleans was appointed regent, and endeavoured to relieve the miseries of war, and restore commerce and agriculture. This king assisted the Pretender in his schemes upon England. The conclusion of his reign was unfortunate; his people exhausted by war, loudly murmured; but Louis, deaf to their complaints, pursued his arbitrary measures till his death.

Louis XVI.—1774. Grandson of the late king.—Upon him fell the weight of those miseries which his predecessors had caused. At the commencement of his reign, he endeavoured to alleviate the distresses of his subjects: but, guided by the suggestions of his queen, Marie Antoinette, his anxiety to preserve his absolute authority was the rock on which he was wrecked. His people rebelled; an ardent and active spirit pervaded all ranks; Louis was compelled to submit to the conditions imposed by the National Assembly, who, not content with abolishing royalty, beheaded their king, January 21st, 1793; his queen shared the same fate, October 16th, 1793. These executions, contrary to the existing laws framed by the Convention themselves, cast an eternal stigma upon the French nation, and caused friends of real liberty to mourn the barbarities of that sacred name.

Germany—Italy—Spain.

Germany.—The reigns of Leopold I., Joseph I., and Charles VI. were occupied with long wars against Louis XIV. and Louis XV. The death of Charles VI. (in 1740) gave occasion to the wars for the succession of Austria, which ended in the settlement of the crown on the husband of Maria Theresa. Joseph II., the son of Maria Theresa, succeeded, and, definitely, Germany ceased to exist as an empire, by the abdication of Francis II. (1806), who only retained his hereditary estates, and took the title of Emperor of Austria.

Commencement of the kingdom of Prussia, 1701.—Prussia, which, in the first place, was but a province of the Empire, became

an hereditary fief. (1640), Frederic William, elector of Brandebourg, was one of the greatest men of his time. In 1701, Frederic I. was proclaimed king of Prussia, known by the name of Frederic the Great, who ascended the throne, 1740, and made himself feared in Germany by several victories.

Italy.—The events of the 17th century had diminished the preponderance of Spain in Italy. The 18th century did away with it altogether. Milan and the two Sicilies passed into the hands of Austria.

Spain.—The war of the succession of Spain (1701 to 1714), which placed upon the throne a grandson of Louis XIV., deprived her of all her European possessions beyond the Peninsula; and in 1718, American Revolutions broke out, which also deprived her of her colonies on that continent.

England—Russia—Sweden—Poland.

England.—In 1689 the Prince of Orange, William III., had succeeded James II., and with him the constitutional monarchy. James II., assisted by Louis XIV., attempted vainly to regain the throne; but in 1702, his second daughter, Anne, wife of George of Denmark, succeeded William III.

Anne made war with France, and Marlborough was her greatest general (1714). The reign of George I. was troubled by the rebellion of the Pretender, who raised a party in Scotland. In 1727, George II. succeeded George I. In his reign occurred the rebellion of 1745. In 1760, George III. began his long reign of sixty years, viz., till 1820. The French found in him a great enemy to their Revolution. He died mad, leaving the throne to George IV., his son, who was succeeded by William IV. and Queen Victoria.

Russia.—Peter the Great (1689 to 1725), founder of St. Petersburg, extended Russia to the Baltic, the Caspian Sea, the Black Sea; saw the decline of Poland; destroyed the power of Sweden; and mixed himself up in the general politics of Europe. In 1709, he won a victory over Charles XII., at the famous battle of Pultava. Under his successors its progress was not as rapid; nevertheless, Russia did not retrograde; on the contrary, Catherine II. raised this empire to the highest point of grandeur.

Sweden.—The adventurous Charles XII., after having obtained great success over the Russians, was defeated at Pultava by Peter the Great, 1709. Sweden was deprived of nearly all her conquests. Besides this, the intestine factions, those of the “caps and bonnets,” the assassination of Gustavus III., and a foolish enterprise by Gustavus IV. against Russia and France, weakened it more and more.

Poland.—From the 18th century dates the dismemberment of Poland; the last division of this unfortunate country took place in 1775, between Russia, Prussia, and Austria.

America.

1783.—Independence of the United States of America.

After the French Revolution, the event in the 18th century which calls for the most attention, is the Independence of the United States of America; this noble revolution began in 1771, and ended in 1783. The Americans Franklin and Washington rendered their names illustrious in this struggle for independence.

